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# WEEKLY PEOPLE

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## IN PASSING

### INCIDENTAL REMARKS ON THINGS AND EVENTS.

"Wages Fund Theory" Wobbly—John Mitchell as a Good and Faithful Servant—Thaw's Deed "a Horse of a Different Color"—Approving Murder Not Limited to Goldfield.

Thaw, the millionaire slayer of the architect White was acquitted on the ground of "mental incapacity" when he committed the act, and "will probably be committed to an asylum," whence he will, still more probably, be set free, whereupon he may once more indulge in some act of temporary "mental incapacity," etc., etc.

The announcement that 5,000 Italians are coming back from Genoa is supplemented by the announcement that "8,000 men have applied at the U. S. recruiting office within six months." Both announcements are made with glee. Well may the announcers rejoice and the working class weep.

Either C. W. Post, of Battle Creek, Mich., is fit for a strait-jacket, or he is of the opinion that crazy capers will draw attention to him and help sell his goods. Post has discontinued advertising his goods, and is advertising himself as a lunatic in column-long genuine dynamiter's rant against Unions.

It seems quite clear that the approval of murder is not limited to the Goldfield "Gospel." The Herald of January 26 has a Goldfield "write-up" in which it is stated that Vincent St. John was recently "shot in the arm in a fight with another federalist." To describe as having been "shot in a fight" the fact of being assassinated by a would-be murderer who did all the fighting in the case, is a direct incitement to murder. No wonder the other party to the "fighting," Paddy Mullane, is out on a trifling bail furnished by the mine owners.

The rumors thicken that John Mitchell is to get a comfortable Government berth. It is bound to come. Capitalists are not ingrates. They are always ready to pension a faithful servant in his old age. Mitchell has served the capitalist class well. His efforts have been successful in fastening the pick-me-stone principle upon the coal miners, in gathering the funds of the men in banks so that the employer can have the wages that he pays out at his own disposal, and in many other and devious ways. By all means Mitchell ought to be pensioned.

What would labor do if it were not for the millionaires? There is John D. Rockefeller, for instance. The unemployed are numerous just now. Lack of work means starvation. In steps John D. He steps between the unemployed and starvation. He "gives them work" at his Tarrytown country seat—and they are snatched from the death of hunger and cold. Some vicious people may sneer. They may say Rockefeller plundered his present beneficiaries into hunger, and now returns only a pittance of what he took. The only thing to do to vicious people is to ignore them.

An assiduous critic has at last found a point of value in Mallock's "demolition" of Socialism. "The treatment is at least easier than Marx's," records the N. Y. Times Book Review.

The news from England to the effect that the Labor Party pronounced itself in favor of Socialism suggests the conclusion that Mallock had better stay at home instead of coming all the way over to America to "demolish" Socialism. In America the only thing "demolished" was Mallock himself. It seems that in England he was demolished before.

The capitalist soul is hopelessly impaled. One day it denies that labor produces its own wages, and, in proof of the statement, sets up the nursery tale about the "Wages Fund Theory," according to which wages are paid of a pre-existing fund made up of the savings of the capitalist—that tack they take when the worker demands higher wages and it is necessary to make him believe he is asking "five feet of the cat." Another day, when the capitalist soul seeks to justify its own idle and superfluous existence, it says it is kept

awake at nights, "scarcely knowing where the wages of his workmen are to be found"—the capitalist soul is just now on the latter tack. Not know where to find the wages to pay the employees? Why, in the "Wages Fund"—Or is there no "Wages Fund" after all?

The President's latest message is a miracle and a producer of miracles. It is miraculous to see the "head and front of capitalist offending" issue a fulmination that is "a campaign against privilege." Still more miraculous is the sight of Republican Senators and Representatives (the political wing in power of the "capitalist offending") applaud the fulmination. Most miraculous of all is the sight of Democratic Senators and Representatives (the political wing out of power and hungry and thirsty and panting for power) lead in the applause. A grand procession of miracles!

Two more banks closed on one day, and a run upon a third, the Oriental Bank in this city, the contribution, on January 30, to the proof that "the panic is over."

The frantic shrieks that Congressman Tawney is shrieking at the stupendous appropriation of \$400,011,216 for the military side of the government, will hardly find an echo in the breasts of the 8,000 men who recently flocked to the recruiting stations, and the many more eight-thousands whom the panic is driving thither in search of jobs. "More than a million dollars a day" for military purposes will hardly sound as too much for the masses of men, who, although they produced wealth enough to keep them in comfort, now find themselves penniless, and, what is more, jobless by reason of the financial and industrial crisis that capitalist "ability" has brought upon the land, and who find, or imagine they will find, shelter in the army and navy.

John Burns, the "labor leader" on the British cabinet, is right loyally paying the master class for the job he enjoys. Burns, once a Socialist (he still claims to be one; the claim is necessary to his trade) held that pauperism increases and would continue to increase so long as the capitalist system lasted. Now Burns places the cause of pauperism and the reason of its increase upon different ground. On January 30 he declared in Parliament: "Pauperism in London is on the increase, and it will continue to grow as long as indiscriminate charity prevails." So, then, the god of pauperism is not capitalism, but "indiscriminate charity."

Unless the sense of chivalry comes to her rescue, Miss Phoebe Cousins stands to receive some hard names soon. Exposing prohibition as a fraud and a failure before a Senate Committee, she declared: "You cannot remove drinking by a prohibition law"; and with irresistible logic she proved it. But by the same irresistible logic, you cannot remove wife-beating, theft, or murder, by anti-wife-beating, anti-theft, or anti-murder laws. Crimes can only be removed by removing the material-psychological environment which breeds them. Socialism by giving all a peaceful, plentiful life, can alone wipe out the vicious environment. Miss Cousins' arguments lead to Socialism. Let her beware.

Frank Rockefeller has set up a new code of criminal procedure. W. A. Rockefeller, the father of John D. Rockefeller, may or may not be a bigamist, as he is alleged to be. If he is, the community is entitled to know the fact. It is not the "concern of no body." Frank Rockefeller thinks otherwise. After characterizing the allegation as a "lie," which, perhaps, the allegation is, Frank turns his back upon the public and says: "None of your business."

The murder of Don Carlos of Portugal and his Crown Prince reveals the fact that the "Kingdom of Portugal" is a bankrupt undertaking, and should be put into a receiver's hands, hence the British fleet has been ordered to Lisbon. As a collector of debts and placer of receivers to do the work, the British fleet is unmatched.

### QUESTIONS.

Have you made any effort yet to get one subscription to the Weekly People for the month of January?

Has the knowledge of the Movement been extended by anything that you have done this year?

If you have been unable to push the propaganda have you helped with financial assistance?

## LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT

The recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, declaring unconstitutional the 10th clause of the Erdmann law, whereby railroad companies are forbidden to discharge from employment members of unions "because of membership," has again given occasion to Justice McKenna to render a pregnant dissenting opinion.

As must be remembered, it was Justice McKenna, whose dissenting opinion from the majority decision upholding the kidnapping of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, punctured that decision, and let all the wind out of it. The brilliant point then made by Justice McKenna was that kidnapping is a crime by itself, and, when committed by Government, is not cleansed, but rendered all the more hideous. Justice McKenna's argument in that instance affected only a principle in criminal jurisprudence. Although not as smooth and easy reading as that first dissenting opinion, Justice McKenna's reasoning in this, his second, dissenting opinion is of vastly broader scope. It is cast in a mold that is sensitive of the principles which the oncoming Social Revolution is pushing to the fore. The dissenting opinion will be found elsewhere in full in this issue. Its substance is:

The principle upon which the decision of the majority of the Court is grounded is that a labor organization has no logical connection with interstate commerce. If the principle were correct the decision would be just. But the principle is wrong. The principle could be maintained only by wrenching that 10th clause from its context. Considering that clause in connection with the other clauses of the Act, there is no ground for the principle to stand on. All the other clauses recognize the railroad union as an element in the interstate commerce. So recognizing the Union, it is entitled to the same restrictions in its favor as are the railroad companies—because "the liberty guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment [the liberty of contract] is not a liberty free from all the restraints and limitations," and "THIS MUST BE SO OR GOVERNMENT COULD NOT BE BENEFICIALLY EXERCISED IN MANY CASES."

The difference between the majority of the Court and Justice McKenna may be expressed in these words:—The majority still breathe the pure and simple breath of capitalist society; the capitalist alone is contemplated in favorable legislation; "freedom of contract" is a privilege; as such it can apply only in the interest of the capitalist; whatever

law, or clause in a law, interferes with this view is harmful to capital, therefore, unconstitutional. As against this position, stands the dissenting opinion of Justice McKenna. It is rendered obedient to the fact that economic-social evolution has differentiated a certain social power, not originally perceived, and which has slowly been crystallizing in labor organizations; these organizations have acquired a logical connection with interstate commerce and, therefore, are entitled to legal recognition.

The historic place or pole of Justice McKenna is an intermediary one between the Social Revolution, or Socialism, on the one side, and reactionary Capitalism, on the other. Reactionary Capitalism denies all legal status to Labor; Socialism denies all legal status to Capital. Justice McKenna occupies a position that marks the transition point—he still recognizes the legal status of Capital, but he is not blind to a fact that social evolution has raised—the crystallized power of Labor; hence he recognizes the legal status of Labor also.

Whether Justice McKenna will progress onward we know not. One thing is certain, a light has struck the retina of the mind's eye of the learned jurist. Justice McKenna has seen the dawn of the coming day.

## DETROIT'S ARMY

### UNEMPLOYED FALL INTO LINE AND HOLD DEMONSTRATION.

Workingmen of Various Nationalities Get Together—Industrial Conditions Condemned—Polish Speaker Scores President.

Detroit, Jan. 20.—On last Tuesday 2,500 unemployed workingmen here joined in a demonstration before the mayor at City Hall. The affair was arranged by the local organization of the Industrial Workers of the World. The men in marching array showed a good-natured spirit and were given friendly greetings by their fellow-workers in the shops along the route of parade.

Preceding the parade a mass meeting was held in Arber Hall. Herman Richter spoke first in a Socialistic strain, condemning industrial conditions which make the workingman, instead of earning his living alone, a dependent on a giant factory or industry.

"Times have come when humanity can produce more than it can use, and yet the ownership of the tools of industry by a few causes poverty," he went on.

"We want bread," he declared, referring to the present slack time in the factories.

Richter was followed by a Polish speaker named Holinski who roused the audience to enthusiasm by an impassioned speech in that language. He pointed out to them that it was possible for the federal government to lend its aid to the bankers in Wall Street to tide them over financial difficulties, but impossible for it to help the workingmen who, unlike the bankers, were in need of assistance from no fault of their own.

Referring to the Szechenyi-Vanderbilt wedding Holinski said: "Yesterday Gladys Vanderbilt bought a Hungarian for \$12,000,000. Twelve million for one Hun! Why, here in this city there are thousands of them without work, food and home. She could have had the whole colony for much less and brought joy and happiness and wealth."

George Young, an organizer of the Industrial Workers of the World spoke after Holinski got through and then the march to the city hall started. Arriving there a set of resolutions were presented to the mayor who expressed his sympathy and promised to see what he could do for them.

The demonstration was a means of binding closer the ties of working class solidarity and will help to open the eyes of many workingmen.

### AND HE WILL DO IT TOO.

Carson, Nev., February 1.—Both houses of the Legislature yesterday passed a resolution asking the President to retain troops in Goldfield until April

### REINSTEIN ON UNITY.

Dwells on One Party Socialist Organizations in European Countries.

Section New York held another successful lecture on Tuesday, January 28, at Maennerchor Hall, 203 East Fifty-sixth street. The large number of people present combined with the subjects dealt with will produce most beneficial results.

Boris Reinstein spoke on the question of "Division and Unity." He covered the past divisions which existed in the labor movement in European countries. Taking up Germany the speaker dwelt upon the difference of opinion as to the "Iron Law of Wages," the Lassallean demand for the worker's full product of his toil as against the Eisenach contention that part of the proceeds must go to pay the expense of government. Reinstein led up to the amalgamation of the two parties at Gotha in 1875 and stated that since then no splits had occurred though there was a variety of differences on certain questions inside the united party.

Going over the conditions in France the lecturer showed how unity between the Blancs with the French Labor Party against the Millerandists was brought on by the Dreyfus affair and Millerand's acceptance of a Cabinet portfolio. This division existed until after the Amsterdam Socialist Congress, when through discussion and conflict the "Millerand" ideas were barely laid aside, and the way for unity opened.

After touching upon the different wings of the Socialist movement in Russia and their final coming together and forming a cohesive power which no inside divisions of opinion could break up, the speaker closed his remarks.

### SUFFRAGETTES AGAIN ARRESTED.

May Not Even Hold Public Street Meetings in London.

London, January 30.—Having failed to reach King Edward yesterday on his return from opening Parliament, and as the House of Commons is barred a new method of protesting against the red against them by police, the women suffragettes of England to-day adopted fact that his majesty made no mention of their demands.

Members of the organization formed themselves into committees which, at the same hour, visited the homes of members of the cabinet to ask them to have the question of women's suffrage settled at this session.

As none of the ministers would see them, the suffragettes delivered addresses from the doorsteps. The police were unprepared for this action, and in recovering their senses created noisy scenes on several fashionable thoroughfares of London.

The suffragettes were finally dispersed after "only" seven arrests had been made.

## IN VIRGINIA

### FIGHT FOR FREE SPEECH GOES ON.

Campbell and Young Addressing Trade Unions—Local Typographical Union Allows Police Trampling Upon Constitutional Rights to Go Unchecked—Authorities Find S. L. P. Men Are Aware of Their Rights.

Richmond, Va., January 30.—Pending the hearing of their cases, which have been appealed to the Hustings Court and will be called next week, Comrades Young and Campbell, who, as previously stated, are out on bail, are making the rounds of the pure and simple trade unions, where they are meeting with a courteous hearing at least. Last week they visited the Central Trade and Labor Council, where they were accorded the floor, and at the conclusion of their addresses they were invited by several of the delegates present to visit their respective unions and promised hearings there. The comrades are following up this line of work and have already visited the tailors, machinists and carpenters' unions, and have others listed for visitation.

The Typographical Union, of which I have been a member for twenty-two years, refused to take action condemning the police and the police justice for the perpetration of the outrage against free speech. I made the usual single-handed fight among this bunch of "aristocrats of labor." The contest was short but sharp, when a motion to table my resolution was carried on a division of 18 to 12, with about twenty-five members not voting. Rising to a question of personal privilege, I told the organization in plain terms what I thought of it, concluding with the declaration that I would never cross its threshold again. I then took my coat and hat and started for the door, when I was requested by one of the leading antagonists of my resolution to wait until he could explain his attitude and his regret at my decision. Then I quit the hall, indignant and disgusted. Of all the ignorant, selfish, reactionary elements that make up the Gompers A. F. of L. the Typographical Union is the most indecent and brazen. Their scabby propensities at Goldfield, where they acted as the hand-maidens (with apologies to the sex) to the Citizen's Alliance and the Mine Owners' Association in tendering their assistance to destroy the I. W. W., can be seen even here in Richmond, when they refuse to condemn the imprisonment of working men for exercising the constitutional right of free speech. But enough of this crew for the present. More again.

In its issue of January 24, the Daily People (as also the Weekly People of February 1), it is stated by some one that Campbell and Young "now have a splendid opportunity to dispose of their magnificent stock of Labor News literature." This statement did not come

from Richmond and I can attribute its insertion only to a too hasty reading of a letter sent by us. The "splendid opportunity" might be a natural conclusion to be arrived at in New York, but, unfortunately, it is the reverse of the case here, as I will show.

On the 21st inst., after having been immured in jail for eight days, Campbell and Young were brought into the police court in order that they might take an appeal from the police justice's decision. Comrades Muller, Biersch and I, together with our counsel, accompanied Campbell and Young to the bar, and our lawyer took our appeal to the Hustings Court. The police justice immediately demanded a PEACE BOND for four hundred dollars, DOUBLE the sum required when the comrades were arrested and bailed for their appearance in the police court. Our counsel protested that this bond was extreme under the circumstances and that there was no necessity for exacting a peace bond, but Justice Crutchfield refused to be swayed from his course.

Comrade Otto Biersch, who in the first instance gave bail for Young and Campbell, again offered to become their bondsman, but before being accepted as such he was subjected by the police justice to the most inquisitorial examination as to the exact spot upon which his house stood, what the place cost, its appearance, etc. The manner and method of this questioning were so unusual as to arouse our suspicions. In order to throw every safeguard around Biersch and prevent, if possible, the consummation of a scheme on the part of the police and the enemies of the S. L. P. to cause the forfeiture of \$400 on his home, we decided to have our rights defined, and our counsel obtained leave of the police justice for us to ask questions. The court-room was crowded. In the course of a series of questions I touched incidentally on Socialist literature, whereupon the Chief of Police tapped me on the shoulder and whispered that he wanted me to come to his office when I was through with the police justice. Comrade Campbell was granted permission to ask a question and to make a statement to the crowd in the court-room—a most unusual proceeding and concession. The police justice evidently saw the difference between men who knew their rights and had the courage to defend them and the general run of timid, trembling mortals who faced him.

After retiring from the court we accompanied the Chief of Police to his office, where we had read to us an ordinance of the most rigid nature, which requires a license of \$10 in order for any one to canvass for, solicit or sell any paper, publication or book, and provides a heavy penalty for violation. Exception is made in this ordinance to religious publications, and the court is clothed with power to exempt canvassers or sellers of these from payment of license. Still, the Constitution of Virginia declares against any alliance between Church and State!

Between this license and the "move on" ordinance, under which a policeman can force any person to "move on" if he stands in the street a moment to speak to a friend, and considering the bitterness of the police towards us on account of the roasts they have received in connection with the arrest of Young and Campbell, our counsel advises us that the risk of selling literature, even under a license, would be too great when compared with the small financial returns.

Comrades Muller, Biersch, Hollins and other local members, together with Young and Campbell, have arranged a programme of propaganda among the trade unions, which we hope will prove to be an entering wedge into the working class organizations and be the means of attracting their attention to the I. W. W. and the S. L. P.

We have gone over our case very thoroughly with counsel, and he is sanguine of success when it comes to trial. He hopes to secure its entrance on the court calendar during the first week in February. We are gratified to learn that the N. E. C. is about to issue an appeal for a Young-Campbell Defence Fund. While the sections in Virginia have responded promptly, as has also our State Executive Committee, the expense attendant on this contest is \$100 much for us to handle alone. The fight was not sought by us; it was precipitated by the gentlemen on the other side through their brass-buttoned minions. But we will fight for our rights to the furthestmost limit.

Alex. B. McCulloch.

## GOLDFIELD MINERS

### MAINTAIN UNBROKEN RANKS IN UPHILL BATTLE.

Baled Hay Served to Scabs—Appeals to Patriotism and Race Prejudice of No Avail—A. F. of L. Carpenters Work for Less Than Contract Calls for.

Goldfield, January 22.—The class struggle is still raging in Goldfield. The miners and the mine owners alike are determined to fight to the bitter end. There are no desertions from our ranks, although the majority are sorely in need. The Consolidated is getting lots of scabs, but it seems they are not making a success of producing the yellow metal, and with the force of watchmen they are keeping they must be playing a losing game. The leasers will not start with the class of men the company is shipping in, nor with what is coming now. The company wanted to start with union men.

The Combination Mine and Mill is working with a full complement of men, more than they ever worked before, but there is no ore coming out of the shaft; there are only five stamps dropping in the mill most of the time. The mine must be in rather bad condition, as baled hay is going down the mine in quantity. The only thing they can use it for is feeding scabs—there are no horses or mules—or else they are filling in caving ground, and hay is expensive, for that purpose. The slopes are caving and they have no skilled labor to keep them up. So they are filling in with hay. It will come expensive, but everything goes in Goldfield to "suck the miners' union."

That they have no miners and want them bad, I have proof of. They would even employ "undesirables" if they could get them. I succeeded once in getting work on the Consolidated with a contractor. After I worked one shift, the contractor was told to dispense with me, or he would lose his contract. I had to hunt another master. When I went there the other day to ask the scab-driver, who knows me well, for work as timberman, he wanted to send me down the mine right off.

The patriotic union which was started here by a Mr. O'Brien is not making big strides. They are inviting all Federation men to join it, and Mr. O'Brien is only going to exclude a few "undesirables." All the appeals to good citizenship, Irish clannishness and the waving of the red flag will not help him. Boozie is flowing in torrents, but the miner drinks the booze and Mr. O'Brien has to depart by himself. Even the scabs will not join him.

This gentleman is not new at the game; he is one of the pioneers of Virginia City of the old Comstock days. In 1900 he appeared in Butte and joined No. 1. There he showed his value to the capitalist class, also his harmfulness to the working class. He went into the political arena for the Amalgamated. Being a slick article he succeeded in pulling the wool over the eyes of No. 1, and got appointed on a committee to collect money for the striking coal miners in Pennsylvania. At the time of settlement Mr. O'Brien was several hundred dollars short, and left for parts unknown. Since then he has been Labor Commissioner in California.

The valiant saviours of Goldfield, the A. F. of L., have fulfilled their mission. They are in a pitiable condition in spite of their contract—the holy agreement between men and men. The carpenters are now at work in spite of their contract, in spite of their constitution and by-laws for a lower wage. Their contract was for \$7 per day, sixty days' notice on either side. But the Consolidated issued an ultimatum that wages would be \$5 per day. Committees were appointed and conferences held, till they came to an armistice and compromised on \$6 per day. In order to justify themselves and not have the by-laws in their way, the by-laws were suspended for sixty days and now the good union carpenter is working with scab miners in places. In other places, on the Mohawk, they got all the carpenters they wanted for \$5. There is only one carpenter who refused to work with scab labor, and he happened to be a member of the S. L. P. Great is fakidom.

Wm. Jurgens.



BY JUSTICE MCKENNA IN AD AIR VS. THE UNITED STATES.

Cogent Reasons Why the Majority Decision Declaring Unconstitutional the Erdmann Law is Unsound in Reasoning and Unsupported by Fact.

William Adair, Plaintiff in Error,  
 vs.  
 The United States.

[January 27, 1908.]

Mr. Justice McKenna dissenting.

The opinion of the court proceeds upon somewhat narrow lines and either omits or does not give adequate prominence to the considerations which, I think, are determinative of the questions in the case. The principle upon which the opinion is grounded is, as I understand it, that a labor organization has no legal or logical connection with interstate commerce, and that the fitness of an employee has no dependence or relation with his membership in such organization. It is hence, concluded that to restrain his discharge merely on account of such membership is an invasion of the liberty of the carrier guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. The conclusion is irresistible if the propositions from which it is deduced may be viewed as abstractly as the opinion views them. May they be so viewed?

A summary of the act is necessary to understand section ten. Detach that section from the other provisions of the act and it might be open to condemnation.

The first section of the act designates the carriers to whom it shall apply. The second section makes it the duty of the Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Commissioner of Labor, in case of a dispute between carriers and their employees which threatens to interrupt the business of the carriers, to put themselves in communication with the parties to the controversy and use efforts to "mediation and conciliation." If the efforts fail, then section 3 provides for the appointment of a board of arbitration—one to be named by the carrier, one by the labor organization to which the employee belongs, and the two thus chosen shall select a third.

There is a provision that if the employees belong to different organizations they shall concur in the selection of the arbitrator. The board is to give hearings; power is invested in the board to summon witnesses, and provision is made for filing the award in the clerk's office of the Circuit Court of the United States for the district where the controversy arose. Other sections complete the scheme of arbitration thus outlined, and make, as far as possible, the proceedings of the arbitrators judicial, and pending them—put restrictions on the parties and damages for violation of the restrictions.

Even from this meager outline may be perceived the justification and force of section ten. It prohibits discrimination by a carrier engaged in interstate commerce, in the employment under the circumstances hereafter mentioned or the discharge from employment of members of labor organizations "because of such membership." This the opinion condemns. The actions prohibited, it is asserted, are part of the liberty of a carrier protected by the Constitution of the United States from limitation or regulation. I may observe that the declaration is clear and unambiguous by any material benefit to the carrier from its exercise. It may be exercised with reason or without reason, though the business of the carrier is of public concern. This, then, is the contention, and I bring its elements into bold relief to submit against them what I deem to be stronger considerations, based on the statute and sustained by authority.

I take for granted that the expressions of the opinion of the court, which seems to indicate that the provisions of section 10 are illegal because their violation is made criminal, are used only for description and incidental emphasis, and not as the essential ground of the objections to those provisions.

I may assume at the outset that the liberty guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment is not a liberty free from all restraints and limitations, and this must be so or government could not be beneficially exercised in many cases. Therefore in judging of any legislation which imposes restraints or limitations the inquiry must be, what is their purpose and is the purpose within one of the powers of government? Applying this principle immediately to the present case without beating about in the abstract, the inquiry must be whether section 10 of the act of Congress has relation to the purpose which induced the act and which it was enacted to accomplish, and whether such purpose is in aid of interstate commerce and not a mere restriction upon the liberty of carriers to employ whom they please or to have business relations with whom they please. In the inquiry there is necessarily involved a definition of interstate commerce and of what is a

regulation of it. As to the first, I may concur with the opinion; as to the second, an immediate and guiding light is afforded by the case of *Howard v. Illinois R. R.*, recently decided. In that case there was a searching scrutiny of the powers of Congress, and it was held to be competent to establish a new rule of liability of the carrier to his employees—in a word, competent to regulate the relation of master and servant, a relation apparently remote from commerce, and one which was earnestly urged by the railroad to be remote from commerce. To the contention the court said: "But we may not test the power of Congress to regulate commerce solely by abstractly considering the broad subject to which a regulation relates, irrespective of whether the regulation in question is one of interstate commerce. On the contrary, the test of power is not merely the matter regulated, but whether the regulation is directly one of interstate commerce or is embraced within the grant conferred on Congress to use all lawful means necessary and appropriate to the execution of that power to regulate commerce." In other words, that the power is not confined to a regulation of the mere movement of goods or persons.

And there are other examples in our decisions—examples, too, of liberty of contract and liberty of forming business relations (made conspicuous as grounds of decision in the present case)—which were compelled to give way to the power of Congress. *Northern Securities Company v. United States*, 193 U. S. 200. In that case exactly the same definitions were made as made here and the same contentions were pressed as are pressed here. The *Northern Securities Company* was not a railroad company. Its corporate powers were limited to buying, selling and holding stock, bonds and other securities, and, it was contended, that as such business was not commerce at all it could not be within the power of Congress to regulate. The contention was not yielded to, though it had the support of members of this court. Asserting the application of the Anti-Trust Act of 1890 to such business and the power of Congress to regulate it, the court said "that a sound construction of the Constitution allows to Congress a large discretion with respect to the means by which the powers it [the commerce clause] confers are to be carried into execution, which enables that body to perform the high duties assigned to it, in the manner most beneficial to the people." It was in recognition of this principle that it was declared in *United States v. Joint Traffic Association*, 171 U. S. 571: "The prohibition of such contracts [contracts fixing rates] may in the judgment of Congress be one of the reasonable necessities of proper regulation of commerce, and Congress is the judge of such necessity and propriety, unless, in case of a possible gross perversion of the principle, the courts might be applied to for relief." The contentions of the parties in the case invoked the declaration. There as here an opposition was asserted between the liberty of the railroads to contract with one another and the power of Congress to regulate commerce. That power was pronounced paramount, and it was not perceived, as it seems to be perceived now, that it was subordinate and controlled by the provisions of the Fifth Amendment. Nor was the relation of the power of Congress to that amendment overlooked. It was commented upon and reconciled. And there is nothing whatever in *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. 1, or in *Lottery Case*, 188 U. S. 321, which is to the contrary.

From these considerations we may pass to an inspection of the statute of which section 10 is a part, and inquire as to its purpose, and if the means which it employs has relation to that purpose and to interstate commerce. The provisions of the act are explicit and present a well co-ordinated plan for the settlement of disputes between carriers and their employees, by bringing the disputes to arbitration and accommodation, and thereby prevent strikes and the public disorder and derangement of business that may be consequent upon them. I submit no worthier purpose can engage legislative attention or be the object of legislative action, and, it might be urged, to attain which the Congressional judgment of means should not be brought under a rigid limitation and condemned, if it contribute in any degree to the end, as a "gross perversion

of the principle" of regulation, the condition which, it was said in *United States v. Joint Traffic Association*, supra, might justify an appeal to the courts. We are told that labor associations are to be compelled. May not then Congress recognize their existence; yes, and recognize their power as conditions to be counted in framing its legislation? Of what use would it be to attempt to bring bodies of men to agreement and compromise of controversies if you put out of view the influences which move them or the fellowship which binds them—maybe controls or impels them, whether rightfully or wrongfully, to make the cause of one the cause of all? And this practical wisdom Congress observed—observed. I may say, not in speculation or uncertain prevision of evils, but in experience of evils—an experience which approached to the dimensions of a national calamity. The facts of history should not be overlooked nor the course of legislation. The act involved in the present case was preceded by one enacted in 1883 of similar purport. 25 Stat. 501. That act did not recognize labor associations, or distinguish between the members of such associations and the other employees of carriers. It failed in its purpose, whether from defect in its provisions or other cause we may only conjecture. At any rate, it did not avert the strike at Chicago in 1884. Investigation followed, and, as a result of it, the act of 1898 was finally passed. Presumably its provisions and remedy were addressed to the mischief which the act of 1883 failed to reach or avert. It was the judgment of Congress that the scheme of arbitration might be helped by engaging in it the labor associations. Those associations united bodies of employees in every department of the carriers, and this unity could be an obstacle or an aid to arbitration. It was attempted to be made an aid, but how could it be made an aid if, pending the efforts of "mediation and conciliation" of the dispute, as provided in section two of the act, other provisions of the act may be arbitrarily disregarded, which are of concern to the members in the dispute? How can it be an aid, how can controversies which may seriously interrupt or threaten to interrupt the business of carriers (I paraphrase the words of the statute), be averted or composed if the carrier can bring on the conflict or prevent its amicable settlement by the exercise of mere whim and caprice? I say mere whim or caprice, for this is the liberty which is attempted to be vindicated as the constitutional right of the carriers. And it may be exercised in mere whim and caprice. If ability, the qualities of efficient and faithful workmanship can be found outside of labor associations, surely they may be found inside of them. Liberty is an attractive theme, but the liberty which is exercised in sheer antipathy does not plead strongly for recognition.

There is no question here of the right of a carrier to mingle in his service "union" and "non-union" men. If there were, broader considerations might exist. In such a right there would be no discrimination for the "union" and no discrimination against it. The efficiency of an employee would be its impulse and ground of exercise.

I need not stop to conjecture whether Congress could or would limit such right. It is certain that Congress has not done so by any provision of the act under consideration. Its letter, spirit and purpose are decidedly the other way. It imposes, however, a restraint, which should be noticed. The carriers may not require an applicant for employment or an employee to agree not to become, or remain a member of a labor organization. But this does not constrain the employment of anybody, be he what he may.

But it is said it cannot be supposed that labor organizations will, "by illegal or violent measures, interrupt or impair the freedom of commerce," and to so suppose would be disrespect to a co-ordinate branch of the Government and to impute to it a purpose "to accord to one class of wage-earners privileges withheld from another class of wage-earners engaged, it may be, in the same kind of labor and serving the same employer." Neither the supposition nor the disrespect is necessary, and, it may be urged, they are no more invidious than to impute to Congress a careless or deliberate or purposeless violation of the constitutional rights of the carriers. Besides, the legislation is to be accounted for. It is by its letter makes a difference between members of labor organizations and other employees of carriers. If it did not, it would not be here for review. What did Congress mean? Had it no purpose? Was it moved by no cause? Was its legislation mere wantonness and an aimless meddling with the commerce of the country? These questions may find their answers in *In re Debs*, 158 U. S. 504.

I have said that it is not necessary to suppose that labor organizations will violate the law, and it is not. Their power may be effectively exercised without violence or illegality, and it cannot

be disrespect to Congress to let a committee of the Senate speak for it and tell the reason and purposes of its legislation. The Committee on Education in its report said of the bill: "The measure under consideration may properly be called a voluntary arbitration bill, having for its object the settlement of disputes between capital and labor, as far as the interstate transportation companies are concerned. The necessity for the bill arises from the calamitous results in the way of ill-considered strikes arising from the tyranny of capital or the unjust demands of labor organizations, whereby the business of the country is brought to a standstill and thousands of employees, with their helpless wives and children, are confronted with starvation." And, concluding, the report said: "It is our opinion that this bill, should it become a law, would reduce to a minimum labor strikes which affect interstate commerce, and we therefore recommend its passage."

With the report was submitted a letter from the Secretary of the Interstate Commerce Commission, which expressed the judgment of that body, formed, I may presume, from experience of the factors in the problem. The letter said: "With the corporations as employers on one side and the organizations of railway employees as the other, there will be a measure of equality of power and force which will surely bring about the essential requisites of friendly relation, respect, consideration and forbearance." And again: "It has been shown before the labor commission of England that where the associations are strong enough to command the respect of their employers the relations between employer and employee seem most amicable. For there the employers have learned the practical convenience of treating with one thoroughly representative body instead of with isolated fragments of workmen; and the labor associations have learned the limitations of their powers."

It is urged by defendant in error that "there is a marked distinction between a power to regulate commerce and a power to regulate the affairs of an individual or corporation engaged in such commerce," and how can it be, it is asked, a regulation of commerce to prevent a carrier from selecting his employees or constraining him to keep in his service those whose loyalty to him is "seriously impaired, if not destroyed, by their prior allegiance to their labor unions"? That the power of regulation extends to the persons engaged in interstate commerce is settled by decision. *Howard v. Illinois Central R. R.*, supra, and the cases cited in Mr. Justice Moody's dissenting opinion. The other proposition points to no evil or hazard of evil. Section 10 does not constrain the employment of incompetent workmen and gives no encouragement or protection to the disloyalty of an employee or to deficiency in his work or duty. If guilty of either he may be instantly discharged without incurring any penalty under the statute.

Counsel also makes a great deal of the difference between direct and indirect effect upon interstate commerce, and asserts that section 10 is an indirect regulation at best and not within the power of Congress to enact. Many cases are cited, which, it is insisted, sustain the contention. I cannot take time to review the cases. I have already alluded to the contention, and it is enough to say that it gives too much isolation to section 10. The section is part of the means to secure and make effective the scheme of arbitration set forth in the statute. The contention, besides, is completely answered by *Howard v. Illinois Central R. R.*, supra. In that case, as we have seen, the power of Congress was exercised to establish a rule of liability of a carrier to his employees for personal injuries received in his service. It is manifest that the kind or extent of such liability is neither traffic nor intercourse, the transit of persons or the carrying of things. Indeed, such liability may have wider application than to carriers. It may exist in a factory; it may exist on a farm, and in both places, or in commerce—its direct influence might be hard to find or describe. And yet this court did not hesitate to pronounce it to be within the power of Congress to establish. "The primary object," it was said in *Johnson v. Railroad*, 196 U. S. 1, of the safety appliance act, "was to promote the public welfare by securing the safety of employees and travelers." The rule of liability for injuries is even more round about in its influence on commerce and as much so as the prohibition of section 10. To contend otherwise seems to me to be an oversight of the proportion of things. A provision of law which will prevent or tend to prevent the stoppage of every wheel in every car of an entire railroad system certainly has, as direct influence on interstate commerce as the way in which one car may be coupled to another, or the rule of liability for personal injuries to an employee. It also seems to me to be an oversight of the proportions of things to contend that in order to encourage a policy of arbitra-

## THE FRENCH NATIONAL WORKSHOPS

AN EPISODE IN THE REVOLUTION OF 1848, BY FERDINAND LASALLE

It is generally understood by a large number of people who devote a portion of their time in attention to questions of social and economic importance, that the French National Workshops of 1848 were of Socialist origin, given birth to as the first step towards achieving the hazy though enthusiastic Socialist conception of the working class in that stirring period. That this was not so is amplified in the following extracts from an article by Ferdinand Lassalle in the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, entitled "A Historical Retrospect," in which the extension of the State as an employer was encouraged as a means of counteracting Socialist influence and stemming its in-flow of thought:

In giving evidence before a Commission of Enquiry, a witness named Arago, a political opponent of Louis Blanc (who is alleged to have fathered the National Workshop "Socialist" scheme) said:

"It is M. Marie (known as a most bitter opponent of Louis Blanc and of the Socialist minority in the Provisional Government in general) who has occupied himself with the organization of the National Workshops."

"The director of the National Workshops appointed by M. Marie was M. Emile Thomas, a tool entirely devoted to M. Marie, and, as we shall hear now, decidedly hostile to Louis Blanc. This director of the National Workshops gives evidence on oath before the Commission of Inquiry, July 28, 1848: 'I have never in my life spoken to Louis Blanc; I do not know him. Whilst I was at the workshops I have seen M. Marie every day, sometimes twice a day; Messrs. Recurt, Buchez, and Marrast (all anti-Socialists) almost every day. I have seen M. de Lamartine once; never M. Louis Ledru-Rollin; never M. Louis Blanc; never M. Flocon; never M. Albert (the last three named formed the Socialist minority of the Government); Ledru-Rollin stood between the two parties.'"

"In his further evidence on June 28, 1848, this same director of the National Workshops says: 'I have always worked along with the Marie against the influence of Ledru-Rollin, Flocon, and others. I was in open hostility with the Luxembourg (meaning Louis Blanc). I have openly worked against the influence of Louis Blanc.'"

"The decrees of February 27 and March 6, 1848, by which the National Workshops were organized, bear the signature of only one man, M. Marie."

"The director of the National Workshops, M. Emile Thomas, has written a book, 'The History of the National Workshops,' in which he makes the following confession: 'M. Marie had me called to the Hotel de Ville. After the sitting of the Government, I went there, and received the news that a credit of five million francs had been voted for the National Workshops, and that the financial arrangements would now work with the greatest ease. M. Marie then took me aside and asked me very quietly whether I could count upon the workmen. 'I think so,' I replied; 'nevertheless, their number increases so much that it becomes very difficult for me to exercise such a direct influence on them as I should like.' 'Don't worry about the number,' said the Minister; 'if you

tion between carriers and their employees which may prevent a disastrous interruption of commerce, the derangement of business, and even greater evils to the public welfare, Congress cannot restrain the discharge of an employee, and yet can, to enforce a policy of unrestrained competition between railroads, prohibit reasonable agreements between them as to the rates merchandise shall be carried at. And mark the contrast of what is prohibited. In the one case the restraint, it may be, of a whim—certainly of nothing that affects the ability of an employee to perform his duties; nothing, therefore, which is of any material interest to the carrier; in the other case a restraint of a carefully considered policy which had as its motive great material interests and benefits to the railroads, and, in the opinion of many, to the public. May such action be restricted, must it give away to the public welfare, while the other, moved, it may be, by prejudice and antagonism, is entrenched impregably in the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution against regulation in the public interest? I would not be misunderstood. I grant that there are rights which can have no material measure. There are rights which, when exercised in a private business, may not be disturbed or limited. With them we are not concerned. We are dealing with rights exercised in a quasi public business and therefore subject to control in the interests of the public.

I think the judgment should be affirmed.

have a firm hold on them, their number will never be too great, but you should find some means of attaching them to yourself. Don't spare the money; if necessary we might grant you secret funds." "I don't think I shall need them; that might later on be a source of serious trouble." But for what other purpose than that of public tranquility do you make these recommendations?" "For the purpose of public safety. Do you think you will be able to rely entirely on your men? The day may not be far distant when it may be necessary to call them out in the street."

"Now let us listen to M. de Lamartine, an opponent of the Socialists, who, in his 'Histoire de la Revolution de Février,' Part II., writes as follows about the National Workshops:

"Some Socialists, then moderate and politicians, but since become extreme partisans, demanded in this respect the initiative of the Government. A great campaign at home, with tools instead of arms, like the campaign of the Romans and the Egyptians for cutting canals and for draining the Pontinian swamps, seemed to them the most appropriate remedy for a republic, which intended to maintain peace, and while protecting and lifting up the proletariat, would also safeguard property. A great Ministry of Public Works would have opened the era of a policy adequate to the situation. It was one of the greatest mistakes of the Government to have deferred too long the realization of these ideas. While it waited, the National Workshops, swollen by misery and idleness, became, day by day, slacker, more fruitless and menacing to the public peace. At that moment they were not so. They were only an expedient adopted in the interests of public order, and a first attempt of public assistance called into existence the day after the Revolution by the necessity of feeding the public, and not keeping it in idleness, so as to avoid the disorders which idleness brings about. M. Marie organized them with great insight, but without ability for productive work. He divided them into brigades, gave them leaders, and inspired them with the ideas of discipline and order. During the four months he turned them from the Socialists and given to riots, into a Pretorian army, but an idle one, into the hands of the Government. Commanded, directed and maintained by chiefs, who were privy to the secret thoughts of the anti-Socialist wing of the Government, these National Workshops formed, till the National Assembly arrived, a counterpoise to the schismatic workmen of the Luxembourg (Louis Blanc's following) and to the disorderly workmen of the clubs. They scandalized by their number, and by the uselessness of their work the eyes of Paris, but they saved it several times without its knowledge. Far from being in the pay of Louis Blanc, as had been said, they were inspired by the spirit of his opponent."

"Do you wish to know exactly the purposes that the National Workshops were intended to serve? Their director, M. Emile Thomas, is quite frank about the matter:

"M. Marie told me that it had been the firm resolve of the Government to let this experiment, the Government Commission for the workmen, run its course; that in itself, it could only have beneficial results, by showing the workmen the utter hollowness and falsity of these unreasonable theories, and by making them feel their doleful consequences for themselves. Then disillusioned in the future, their idolatry of Louis Blanc would disappear, and he would lose all his authority and power, and would cease for good and all to be a danger."

"Such were the intentions which they had in view in the establishment of 'Louis Blanc's National Workshops.' And so the purpose was more surely attained, and that this "experiment" should be more certainly accomplished, the workmen were employed on unproductive works only. The works which were carried on are specified in a letter of the director to the Minister Marie:

"Repairs of the military roads for patrols, and of the unpaved roads of Paris. Earthworks (levelling) on the Jena slopes, on the lawns of the Champs Elysees, and the slaughterhouse of Montmartre. Extracting stones in the communes of Clichy and Gennevilliers. Making the tow-path of Neuilly."

"As these works were only undertaken because they did not want to let the men for whom it was intended to feed, loaf about altogether, they were put to work turn and turn about, two or three days a week."

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## PHILA. AGITATION

NO LET-UP IN THE PROPAGANDA FOR THE LABOR MOVEMENT.

The Message of Industrial Unionism Sent Home—Interesting Discussion Follows Lecture—A Dyer's Local Formed.

Philadelphia, January 27.—On Sunday evening, January 19, Louis Katz spoke at Lewar's Hall, Ninth and Spring Garden streets, on "The Labor Problem." He handled the question in an analytical manner and went into a complete exposition of the industrial question.

The speaker showed he understood the matter thoroughly and was in this respect a marked contrast to the speakers of the two preceding Sundays. Many questions were asked and answered after the lecture, and when the floor was opened to general debate several Socialist party men took the opportunity to express themselves with regard to the industrial organization. The discussion soon resolved itself into a debate between the political Socialists and the industrial unionists.

An elderly man led off for the Socialist party members by declaring that we are dividing the workers; that all that is necessary is to vote—the Socialist party ticket.

"Mr. Chairman," called out the dry voice of comrade McLure, "how could we divide the workers and more than they are divided now in the craft unions?" He obtained the floor and said: "The I. W. W. proposes to organize the working class, irrespective of what the craft unions or the political Socialists do." He gave a rapid and comprehensive presentation of the I. W. W. position, both industrially and as to political action.

McLure was followed by a young man, who seemed to honestly think that we needed enlightenment. The industrial union might be right, he would not gain say that, but, while you are forming your industrial organization are you going to leave the capitalists in control? Why not vote for the Socialist party, which can do the work right away?

Comrade Flynn took up the argument and said: "Mr. Chairman, let me turn that argument inside out. While you are carrying on your political agitation, electing municipal, state, and national officers, electing a house of representatives and a senate, electing a president—supposing your vote to be counted (which it will be counted out), then after you have passed laws and they have been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, and while you are waiting to pass a constitutional amendment, what shall the workers do meanwhile? How is a political party going to run the industries. The political organization is organized to run the government. Do you understand Socialism to be government ownership? I do not."

The speech of the night outside of Katz was made by a gray-haired man named Fiel. He was there with the "goods," showed a familiarity with trade union organization and went to the very root of the entire question. He declared that while corrupt practices might creep into this organization, that the difference between that and the craft unions is basic and fundamental, that the craft unions are essentially capitalist organizations; that therefore the difference is not of degree, but of kind. He wished seeing to the new form of organization. We hope we shall see more of this man.

At a late hour the meeting adjourned. It was announced that on Saturday a Dyer's local, I. W. W., had been formed with a membership of forty-five.

Secretary Agitation Committee.

## THOUSANDS OF MINERS FACE WAGE CUT.

Pittsburg, January 30.—Pittsburg coal operators representing an annual output of 90,000,000 tons a year, have decided that coal miners must accept a reduction of at least ten cents a ton, else there will be a lockout. This was decided at a meeting held in Pittsburg yesterday at the offices of the Pittsburg Coal Co., and to-night a committee of eight operators left for the miners' convention at Indianapolis, where the ultimatum will be made known at the proper moment. It is understood that the operators of the Pittsburg district are not willing even to fall in with a proposition that has been talked in the West, that of signing a scale at the present rate—90 cents a ton—providing the miners would sign for a term of years.

## BARGAIN LOT OF PAMPHLETS.

Of the pamphlets issued in the Bureau series we still have a quantity of: American Farmer.

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## PASSING OF THE STEAM ENGINEER

The Producer Gas Plant and Gas Engine Entirely Eliminates the Skill of Operator.

While the electrically operated roads are rapidly throwing the "lordly fellow worms" (the locomotive engineers), among the ranks of the "unskilled" laborers, their stationary brothers are feeling the effects of the capitalist ownership of the means of production through the agency of the direct connected motor and the producer gas plant, in conjunction with the gas engine.

It has been found by manufacturers that the electric motor drive is far more efficient than the steam engine with its shafting, belting, etc.; but where the load factor is high, say, in cotton mills and establishments when the machinery is operated from 20 to 24 hours daily, the steam engine is still, or was, in favor when water power was not available. While it is true that the water wheel generates power at a low cost per horse-power hour, still the investment on dam, penstocks, and machinery is excessive, and sometimes the water falls or rises so that the plant becomes useless.

Until within the last few years we have turned to the steam engine, and as some knowledge is required to economically operate a steam plant, the men in charge have been paid wages commensurate with their skill—as regulated by the law of supply and demand. In the State of New York steam engineers must pass an examination as to their knowledge of their trade, but in Rhode Island no license is required. Wages are proportionately high in N. Y., but very low in R. I. The producer gas plant and the gas engine will entirely do away with the skilled engineer.

Before me lies a copy of the report of the "Coal-Testing Plant of the United States Geological Survey at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis, Mo., 1904, on Producer Gas." (Engineers should send to their Congressmen or Senators for a copy; it is free.) The volume handles the subject of gas producers in detail, but in brief it may be said that the investigation and tests were carried on to the end that manufacturers might be able to do away with the costly and cumbersome steam plants. A description of the device may be of interest to the general reader, and as the Government report is somewhat technical we will use the catalog of a manufacturer.

"The producer is a cylindrical stove lined with fire brick and filled with anthracite coal, with a grate below and a coal-hopper and a charging device above.

"The method of generating suction producer gas in the producer is as follows: Air is drawn through the bed of incandescent fuel, by the action of the engine piston, thus forming combustible gas. The gas generated in this manner while passing under or around the water contained in the evaporator, imparts heat to this part of the apparatus, generating steam. The air, before entering the space under the grate, is saturated with this steam, and the moist air is decomposed while passing through the hot fuel bed, adding a certain amount of hydrogen to the gas. The gas thus produced has a heating value of approximately 130 to 140 B. T. U. per cubic foot.

"Leaving the producer the gas enters the bottom of the scrubber, filled with coke, and in passing upward meets a spray of water which purifies and cools the gas, before it is led to the gas receiver and thence to the engine.

"The impurities in the gas coming from the producer are deposited in the bottom of the scrubber from whence they can be removed about once a month. A water seal, inserted between producer and scrubber, positively shuts off the gas from the producer while the engine is idle.

"When stopping the plant, the generator is shut off from the scrubber and opened to the atmosphere. The natural draught keeps the fuel burning moderately, so that the producer can be put in operation again within a short time. The small amount of gas generated while the plant is standing idle, escapes through the smoke pipe. A hand blower serves for starting and reviving the fire before putting the producer in operation.

"When building a new fire, it requires about thirty minutes from the time of starting to obtain gas of good quality. After shutting down over night a period of ten minutes' blowing by means of the fan is sufficient to insure gas of proper quality for starting the engine."

From the foregoing description any man who is interested in problems affecting machinery drives, can readily see how very little skill is required to operate a gas producer plant. One manufacturer states—and truly, for the writer

## THE NEW RELIGION

By GUS A. MAYES.

After many years of vain endeavor on the part of the clergy to stem the ever growing tide of Socialism through a tirade of slander and misrepresentation, we find the heads of several denominations suddenly becoming enlightened, as it were, and doing obeisance to the Movement.

Some of the Churches have already found it necessary to admit a "higher criticism" into their doctrines, while others, realizing the futility of this scheme to permanently hold their erstwhile followers, have advocated a kind of compromise with the teachings of Socialism, recognizing, that by so doing, the Church would be enabled to voice, in a measure, the highest and noblest sentiments of man.

That this last move is an impossibility is obvious from the fact that the reason for the so-called Christian Church is wholly at variance with the reason for the Socialist Movement.

For many long centuries the yoke of oppression has rested on our shoulders, and the pangs of incessant toil, of hunger and want, have given rise to tender sentiments within the human breast, a craving for a better and nobler life, where, it is said, the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest. Out of sadness, hope has grown, and with that hope, an aspiration for a higher and better life. It is, and ever has been the duty of the Church to harness this holy sentiment by creating numerous hymns whose tender melodies appeal to the aspirations of the toiling numbers for a better life.

Is it at all conceivable how a doctrine having for its ultimate object the enslavement of man, and the warping of his intellect, could affiliate itself with anything like Socialism? Yet, the influence of the Church is on the wane. The fathers of families, the mothers and children, the homeless, all cry for bread; and the Church hands them a stone wet with tears and blessed with sweet words. Vile mockery, what an insult to the Productive Forces of a mighty Republic! No longer do the masses attend church to receive the bread of life; but assembled in humble groups on lonely streets, in front of great factories, or crowded into halls, they are receiving the Sacrament of Labor; the Knowledge which is the only Bread of Life, the only Elixir which allays all physical pain and mental worry. It is SOCIALISM, the Hope of the Workers.

What is Socialism? To the Socialist, it is everything. By giving the workers full ownership and control of all the means of production, distribution, transportation and exchange, they will be enabled to satisfy every desire for work or leisure; for the enjoyment of his right as a free being, having an equal share with his comrades in Nature's realm. Under Socialism, want and fear will not exist, and man will look with pity on the animal kingdom where the struggle for existence still rages, forgetting that man's condition under capitalism was a thousand times worse. Under the domed firmament of heaven, the savage beast bounds forth in health and strength. He knows naught of the dread diseases that snatch us by the millions from the shadow of the factory and hurl us to death. He exerts himself in search of food, and finds time for sport and leisure. Nature clothes him according to his needs, and for his humble den he pays no rent. It pleases him to make love in a simple way, to populate the earth with his progeny, and his greatest fear is the fear of man.

Workingmen, compare the life of the beast with your own unhappy existence, and then consider the humiliation you have been subjected to by your masters. And your Masters, not yet satisfied with this humiliation, threaten to starve you in the midst of plenty. With your own hands you have tilled the soil and reaped the harvest, which your masters have placed under lock and key. With your own hands you have built huts for yourselves and mansions for them, and have decorated your masters' lawns with ornamental trees, with sweet-scented flower-beds, with beautiful fountains that reflect the colors of the rainbow, and with picturesque walks and drives. With your own hands you have made brick and mortar and iron, and have built immense factories. Into these you have placed huge machines invented by your genius and perfected by your skill, and in the roar and din of this machinery you have made your home. Here the father competes with the son for a job, and the mother with the daughter. It is here you toil before the sun rises, and you leave by the dim glare of an electric light, and all you get in return is barely sufficient to feed and to clothe you. You have built miles and miles of railways; you have built long trains and constructed immense steamships; you operate all these and even them in

repair with your own labor, and by the aid of these you carry the product of your toil to the four corners of the earth. Your master fills his house with the costliest wares you produce; he wallows in the best of everything that his slaves are disposed to bring him. Finding himself unable to consume all that you produce, he makes liberal distribution among his supporters, the soft-voiced sky-pilots who reminds his master of his stewardship from God, the glib-tongued capitalist politician whose motives are prosperity and brotherly love, the public orators, jugglers and mountebanks who dilate on the beauties of capitalism, the lying newspaper editors versed in the misrepresentation of facts. To these our Master, the Capitalist, gives generously in order that they too may taste of idleness and luxury at the expense of the workers, so that they will assist in shackling us the firmer. But in spite of all efforts to squander the wares we produce, there still remains a surplus, and our Masters are compelled to seek markets abroad in order that we may not rest in idleness, and in order that the Dogma of Work be observed.

Fellow workingmen, consider the shame that has befallen your class! You who are the backbone of the Nation, the proud successors of the noble ancestry that fought for freedom, and you have allowed yourselves to be beaten and plundered. You, who in your strength of numbers could, with a single stroke, raze the rotten system under which we live to the ground.

Your masters keep you divided in craft unions through the efforts of their agents in the American Federation of Labor, and craft scabs it on craft in the same industry, so as to discourage and defeat you. On Labor Day you carry banners bearing the inscription "In Union Is Strength," and your master laughs at you and despises you, because he knows you are hopelessly divided. With your brain, he administers all industry; with the government and its armed force, he clubs you into submission according to his will.

Let the Blood of Vengeance boil in your veins in honor of your forefathers who fought for freedom, and whose memory you cherish. Show them who despise us that we are MEN, that we have a mighty arm if need be, and a mightier will. Unity of purpose and unity of action by the workers alone can save society from terrible disaster. We must so organize in the factories, the shops, the mines, the mills and the railroads, that we can set up our own Industrial Administration and elect our own trusted comrades to look after our interests there. Then, when the final day of reckoning comes, and we are so organized, not in crafts, but in industrial bodies, that we can take and hold, we will have our own Industrial Administration to direct industry, and our masters will have to go to work.

Take, for example the Street Railway Workers thoroughly organized, and on the establishment of the Socialist Republic handing the day's fares into their own administrative offices, to be distributed among the workers to each according to his toil, making due allowance for wear and tear. Instead of the workers getting twenty cents out of every dollar collected, they would get the whole of it. The capitalist, not being a worker, would get nothing, and the same principle applies to all other industries. By working two or three hours per day, you would have plenty, and have time to taste of leisure, and there would then be work for all. Such an organization is the Industrial Workers of the World. In it what will lead up to the General Administration of the Industrial Commonwealth is already established.

But how are we going to organize the workers in the I. W. W.?

The Capitalist Class is in possession of the powers of Government, and through that, they can hamper us in our work of organizing. We are told that the government is representative of the people's will, but this is so only when the people thoroughly understand the use of the ballot, and have learned to vote in their own interests. The ballot is the weapon used by civilized man as a test of strength, and the will of the majority rules. By this means, we are enabled to measure our forces with those of the capitalist class, to meet them on that special field for which our forefathers fought and conquered. To take the ballot away from the industrially organized workers would be a denial of political rights, and the spirit of the age resents such an action. By making the demands of Industrial Unionism political demands, we are enabled to preach revolution in the open air, and to organize the workers on the industrial field under the protection that political rights afford, which are the rights of civilization, the peaceful means of settling disputes. It matters little whether the capitalist class counts us

out at the polls, or disqualifies our vote, or even keep our candidates off the ballot. A Socialist parliament, if elected, cannot administer industry, because it is representative of States and not industries. Its function can only be to destroy the political forts now held by representatives of the capitalist class.

Political action enables us to organize our majority on the economic field, and that once organized, will give us the might to enforce our programme of take and hold; and should we then meet with resistance, we will fertilize the soil with the ruthless usurpers. Until then, fellow workers, on with the work of education and organization; on with the S. L. P. and the I. W. W.; on with Progress, and the day will be at hand for the workers to breathe the breath of Freedom and to enjoy the religion of Leisure, which is by right the inheritance of the slave.

Toronto, Canada.

## DEFINING A JOB.

By "Shirker."

Webster's definition of a job is:—First—A piece of work; anything to be done whether of more or less importance.

Second—A lucrative business—an undertaking with a view to profit.

It's a piece of work all right and the anything to be done, whether of more or less importance, is the worker, and the capitalist does him up and down until finally like a dish of Boston baked beans, he's done brown and handed over to the undertaker and the rest of us stand around and say "Doesn't he look natural?"

As to a job being a "lucrative business" what do you men think about it that have one? Possibly the "Dictionary" must be a lucrative business because there are so many men on the hunt for jobs.

Webster also calls a job "an undertaking with a view to profit."

A worker was offered a job in a small town about 30 miles from where he was trying to exist, and, not having the fare but the walking being fair—he started—darkness found him some distance from his destination. Becoming lost, he landed on a railroad track and proceeded along this toward his job, which loomed before him through the night like a lighthouse to a sinking ship. In the darkness he became involved in a short but swift argument for the right of way with one of the new "Atlantic type" heavy steam locomotives, drawing a fast freight, and to make a sad story short, he lost and landed in the morgue. In this case at least Webster's definition of a job is right. His view to profit resulted in an undertaking.

No one can deny that a job is an undertaking; in fact, it is a very legitimate part of the undertaking business. When one takes into consideration the thousands of members of the working class, killed annually on railroads and in factories, etc., the only ones that profit by the job are the capitalist and undertakers, and about the only view of profits the worker gets is by looking through the financial columns of the press. He might view his profits by taking a pike on a Sunday afternoon through the capitalist residential portion of his town and view them in the shape of beautiful dwellings. Walk by—remember, don't stop or the cops will make you "beat it."

(Now, to come down to the real thing. In reality, when you are hunting for a job you are simply looking for a chance to sell your labor power, or, in other words, you are an auctioneer or labor merchant chasing from one capitalist to another trying to get the highest wage for your power to labor. In a good many cases at present trying to get a job regardless of the wage.

Under chattel slavery, when a slave owner wished to sell his slaves, he hired an auctioneer. Under the present system no hired auctioneer is needed, each person is his or her own auctioneer and hawks or peddles the only commodity we have to sell, our labor power.

Slave selling was degrading because a slave seller sold human beings. Slaves also were degraded; they were the human beings sold. The present capitalist system of society is doubly degrading, not only because it makes of the worker a slave seller, but also because of the fact that the human being he sells is himself.

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## LABOR POLITICS

Their Purpose Is to Capture the Capitalist State to Overthrow It.

A revolutionary party of the workers can only exist in so far as it is an accurate reflex of the economic organization of Labor. It is the hope and the aim of the Socialist Labor Party to order its career so that it may be a truthful and worthy reflex of the industrially united working class. So far as it succeeds in that aim, it will prosper. If it fails, it will decline and be cast upon the political rubbish heap. But we have no fear of failure. We know, too, that the approaching unity of the working class in the economic domain will bring about unity between the S. L. P. and other political organization into which the working class is divided.

In the meantime it is the mission of the Socialist Labor Party of Great Britain to fight capital in the political field, as the Industrial Union's function is to fight it in the economic field—neither controlling or dominating the other, but both necessarily acting in conjunction, the one being the complement of the other. Our aim as a party is the political organization of the workers on class-conscious principles. Whenever the oligarchic electoral laws of our country permit, we put forward our candidates for the representation of the workers in the various municipal and State assemblies. Our single aim is the expropriation of the capitalist class. We attack the capitalist State not as an army attacks a stronghold which it desires to garrison and defend after capture. Rather do we attack it as the French workers in the time of the revolution attacked the Bastille, to raze it to the ground as a stronghold of tyranny and oppression. With the political victory of Labor through the S. L. P. and its economic victory through the Industrial Union, the State as an engine of class rule will disappear forever. The means of production will be administered by the workers organized in the Industrial Unions. Thus, while the poll of the S. L. P. is small, every vote has a determined and clear-minded revolutionist behind it. Numbers will come in time. At present we can afford to leave immediate success and flypaper votes to those who take delight in such things. We have a more serious object before us. It is not by windy enthusiasm and frothy speeches that capital can be overthrown, but by solid organization, political and economic, and education in sound revolutionary principles. We therefore call upon all workers who are weary of oppression and wrong, whose hearts are aflame with indignation against the Beast Capital, its "High Priests and myrmidons, to join us in the battle, and enroll in the ranks of the Socialist Labor Party and the Industrial Unions. Be assured, we shall not desert from the battle until with the working class organized in the economic and political wings of the army of the revolution, capital is overthrown and the Socialist Republic established.

—From the pamphlet "The Development of Socialism in Great Britain."

BARONDESS GETS "COLD FEET."

Notorious East Side Professional Labor Politician Leaves the Socialist Party. Joseph Barondeess announced last Saturday that he may now be counted as unalterably opposed to Socialism, which he considers is a dwindling cause. In giving his reasons for secession from the Socialistic ranks Barondeess said he had gradually come to realize that Socialists only use trades unions as a means to their own political ends.

LAI OFF WORKERS STILL LEAVING IN VAST NUMBERS.

A report issued by Emil L. Boas, general manager of the Hamburg-American line, shows that 68,761 aliens took steerage passages back to their homes from this country during January, while only 15,432 immigrants arrived during that time. In January, 1907, the number of arrivals was double that of the departures.

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Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

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Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading rooms at 409 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets every alternate Sunday at 356 Ontario street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 3 P. M.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O. S. L. P., at 1414 Race street. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

S. L. P., at I. W. W. Hall, 12th and Jackson streets. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Section Spokane, Wash., S. L. P. free reading room 110 Bernard st. Visiting comrades, I. W. W. members and all others invited. Business meetings every Sunday morning at 11 a. m.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters 815 Hamilton street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer street. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—J. C. Butterworth, Secretary, 110 Albion ave., Paterson; A. Lesig, Financial Secretary, 266 Governor street, Paterson, N. J.

Chicago, Illinois.—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2 p. m. sharp, at Friedmann's Hall, S. E. corner Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women are cordially invited.

Section Seattle, S. L. P., headquarters, free reading room and lecture hall, No. 2000 Second avenue. P. O. address, Box 1040.

Section Salt Lake, Utah, meets every Wednesday, 8 p. m., Rooms 4 and 5, Galena Block, 69 East 2nd St. Free Reading Room. Weekly People readers invited.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1908.

It is notorious that in proportion to  
people's ignorance of their own constitu-  
tions and the true causes of disease  
is their credulous confidence in pills,  
patents, and quackish absurdities.

—HUXLEY and YOUNG.

## WHY? WHY? WHY???

The "New York Association for Im-  
proving the Condition of the Poor" has  
in the papers a call for funds. The call  
is headed:

"Send Good Cheer."

And then follow six paragraphs as fol-  
lows:

"1 puts stockings on eight pairs of  
cold little feet."—Why should these lit-  
tle feet be cold? The adults of their  
class have raised the wool and cotton,  
and have spun the thread, and have  
woven stockings enough to cover myriads  
of little, middling and big feet.

"2 feeds a hungry mother and four  
children three days."—Why should this  
mother and her four children be hungry?  
Her husband, their father, has produced  
either food, or its equivalent, in abun-  
dant to keep her and them from hunger-  
ing.

"3 means a warm dress for a delicate  
shop girl, or beddings for an aged in-  
valid."—Why should the "delicate girl"  
have to expose herself in the shop? Or  
why should the invalid be bed-less? Is  
not there a "Society for the Prevention  
of Cruelty to Animals"? Is it not cru-  
elty to have a "delicate girl" do shop  
work? Or is cruelty to a working girl  
permissible, but not permissible to a  
dog? Why should she need alms, or the  
aged invalid? Have not their class pro-  
duced warm dresses and bedding in plen-  
ty? Why have they none of that?

"40 gives two widows coal so they  
can maintain their home by washing."—  
Why should these widows need to main-  
tain their homes by washing, and need  
the alms of coal to do it? We shall not  
inquire into the cause of their widow-  
hood, lest the discovery is made that  
their husbands died in some mine ex-  
plosion, killed by the very capitalists  
who now affect benevolence towards the  
widow. Coal in abundance has been pro-  
duced by the class of the widow and her  
deceased husband.

"55 prevents eviction of two families  
while breadwinner is sick."—Why should  
two families, or even one family of the  
working class be evicted? They built  
the tenements. Why should poverty  
stalk in the family of the workman?  
The instant the breadwinner is sick?  
He produces, when well, enough to float  
the nation in wealth.

"60, \$100, \$1,000 helps in proportion  
to care for over 2,000 families we are  
aiding to-day. \$20,000 urgently needed."—  
Why should so many families be in dis-  
tress? The distress of our family, or  
two, may be due to individual laziness.  
But the distress of 2,000, and of the  
larger number which needs \$20,000 ur-  
gently?

Why? The answer is found in the  
name that signs the call—"R. Fulton  
Cutting, President"—a type of the idle  
capitalist sponge that lives on the mar-  
row of the working class, and then  
seeks to exploit the misery that his  
class produces by posing as philanthrop-  
ist.

ON THE FEMALE TEACHERS' MOVE-  
MENT.

Last Thursday night there was a mass  
meeting of women teachers at Cooper  
Union in the interest of the equalization  
of salaries. The opponents of that idea  
were also out in force and distributed  
circulars, part of which read as follows:

"When a woman not charged with a  
home, not contributing to the family

life of the nation, enters the industrial  
field, she is entitled to compensation as  
an individual only. She is not entitled  
to the same pay as the man whose just  
wage is the family wage."

We doubt if there was a better argument  
presented by the female teachers them-  
selves than in this extract from the ob-  
jections of their opponents. The circular  
quoted speaks of the "just" wage of the  
man of the family, but there is really  
no wage to-day that is based upon the  
necessary support of a family. And it  
is for this very reason that the wage  
of the man no longer suffices to keep the  
family that women have been forced to  
seek employment in industry and in the  
professions. In fact, the only wage  
known to-day is the individual wage,  
and that wage is regulated by the com-  
petition between the individuals, male  
and female, of the one family, aye, even  
the children of the family enter into the  
competition.

No more than cattle are paid for in the  
"Cattle Market" at the "family price"  
of the bull, are wage earners, among  
whom teachers take their place, paid for  
in the "Labor Market" at the family  
price of the male.

Woman, until the growth of the fac-  
tory system was nothing more nor less  
than a domestic servant, part of whose  
household duties consisted in spinning,  
weaving, making clothes, etc., etc. Woman  
was a producer, though mainly for the  
consumption of her own family, and  
when the household production developed  
into factory production she had to follow  
it to the factory, just as the handicraft  
man had to abandon his little shop and  
follow the developed tool into the fac-  
tory.

In domestic servitude in the family  
woman received no "pay," in the present  
day sense, she shared in the general pro-  
duct. And now that she has "freedom"  
to work the exploiters bargain to hold  
her to the no-cash basis that was a  
feature of her domestic servitude.

So real a fact is it that individual  
production, and not production by the  
head of the family, has become the order  
of the day that where women do not go  
out and work you find them bringing  
work home, or taking lodgers or board-  
ers, in order to hold up their individual  
end of the family production.

We are glad to see the women school  
teachers organizing in an effort to better  
their condition. What is needed among  
women is a keener sense of solidarity.  
They are yet suffering from the long  
heritage of isolation endured by their  
mothers. All the real advantages that  
exploited woman may gain will only be  
secured by joining hands with her ex-  
ploited brother man and wrenching such  
advantages from the exploiting class—  
be they Boards of Education or Boards  
of Directors of corporations.

H. S. K.

## MODERN MALAPROPS.

Mrs. Frederick Nathan, President of  
the New York City Consumers' League,  
states in her annual report:

"The present system of licensing ten-  
ements has failed to protect child work-  
ers, since children of three, four and  
five can work legally in tenement homes.  
A large proportion of the children found  
working were between the ages of five  
and ten. Of sixty-seven children who  
did not attend school, forty were violating  
the compulsory education law and twenty-  
three were too young to be protected by  
its provisions.

"The laws are ineffective, helplessly  
ineffective in some respects, not only be-  
cause the numbers of inspectors is ridi-  
culously inadequate, but because pun-  
ishments does not reach out to strike  
the real offenders. The poor, ignorant  
workers may be arrested, but the land-  
lord is hard to reach, and the manufac-  
turer who gives out the work is in no  
way made liable."

When reading such an array of facts  
one may well wonder how long it will  
take such well-intentioned people, as con-  
stitute the Consumers' League, to learn  
the lesson loudly enough preached by  
the facts they gather, that they are but  
modern Malaprops—seeking to stem a  
flood with a mop.

All the facts enumerated in Mrs. Na-  
than's report converge to prove that the  
force which the Consumers' League is up  
against, is a force that knows "twenty  
tricks" to preserve its existence, to every  
"one trick" that sentimental people may  
devise to clip that force's wings.

The Government we have to-day is  
the capitalists' government—pure and  
simple. There are not in that govern-  
ment, as one-time in the British Parlia-  
ment, two sets of warring rulers. In our  
legislatures and capitals we have but one  
ruling class, the capitalist class—pure  
and simple. Under such circumstances,  
there is nothing of real importance that  
can be fetched from such a source in the  
interest of the workers. The capitalist  
legislatures may not say so, they do not  
say so, that they look upon the senti-  
mentalists with something very much  
akin to contempt—but they act upon the  
principle. Hence their seeming listening  
to the wails of sentimentalists, and the  
stopping of the latter's mouth with laws  
that are ineffective.

One should think that the intelligence,

that can perceive how utterly insufficient  
the principle of child labor and kindred  
laws are, and how utterly inadequate the  
provisions of the law are to enforce even  
the insufficient sop which it grants—one  
should think the intelligence, such as  
Mrs. Nathan is gifted with, would realize  
that it is tugging at a wrong cord.

But the age of miracles does not yet  
seem to be past. Among modern mir-  
acles, the smallest surely is not the Mal-  
apropian attitude of the unquestionably  
intelligent constituency of the Consum-  
ers' League.

## A QUESTION OF SPECTACLES.

Spectacles of colored glass are prover-  
bially distorting to the vision of the  
wearer. The glasses of capitalist training  
partake of the quality in no slight de-  
gree.

"Poverty-stricken and ignorant, poor  
because of their ignorance," is Senator  
Tillman's description of the poor whites  
of the South—and there are millions of  
them, he says.

Tillman's capitalist glasses so distort  
his sight that he sees exactly back end  
to. He has taken cause for effect and  
effect for cause.

The time has long gone by when igno-  
rance can be said to be the cause of  
poverty.

To the proof: If ignorance is the cause  
of poverty, then learning must be the  
antidote therefor. The wise man must  
be the rich man, and the more knowledge  
he has, the higher must his wealth pile in  
proportion. If all the "ignorant" ones  
were made "learned" ones, all would be  
rich.

The absurdity of the idea is now plain.  
The great barons of finance, the Roth-  
schilds, Morgans, and Rockefellers are  
markedly not the most learned men of  
the world. Knowledge and ownership of  
industry may both be desirable things  
to have; but it is the latter, not the  
former, which determines wealth. It is  
as sole controllers of the means of pro-  
duction that the capitalist class are the  
wealthy class. Whatever culture or  
learning they may have had is a side  
issue. They are not rich because they  
are educated; but they are educated be-  
cause they are rich.

This fact, on its obverse side, explains  
the condition of the millions of poor  
whites of whom Senator Tillman speaks.  
The rich could not be rich without their  
employees to live on. Being robbed of  
the bulk of their produce to swell the  
fortunes of the employer, the wage work-  
ers must remain poor. Being poor, they  
can not buy an education. They are not  
poor because they are uneducated; they  
are uneducated because they are poor.

That Senator Tillman, a profligate by  
the system which robs the producer of  
the necessities of life to provide luxuries  
for the non-producer, should cling to his  
distorting capitalist glasses, is not  
strange. What is strange, and sad with-  
al, is that the producers themselves, the  
victims of the Tillmans should also, in  
such large numbers, wear the identical  
spectacles. Speed the day when the  
fraud will be discovered, and the clear  
crystal of Socialist thought be the only  
aid to vision used by the working class  
of the world.

## MODERN DISPOSSESSMENT.

One of the passages in Marx's "Cap-  
ital" gives a historic account of the cir-  
cumstances that furnished to the on-  
coming capitalist class a proletariat—an  
element stripped of all property and  
thereby compelled to sell its labor-power  
at the pittance offered to it.

The action of the Crown in seizing  
estates compelled large numbers of lord-  
lings to "set free" their numerous retin-  
ers. The "setting free" consisted in  
discharging these retainers and throwing  
them upon the high roads. Simultane-  
ously with this process, another went on  
afoot. The free peasant proprietors were  
ruthlessly dispossessed. Farms  
were turned into sheep-walks; peasants  
driven out to make room for hunting  
grounds; households were broken up  
by main force; Bacon's history of those  
days depicts a widespread system of ex-  
propriation furnishing paupers in huge  
numbers. The presence of this new  
element was grist to the bourgeois mill.  
The element needed to sweat out surplus  
value was thus produced, and was used.

Just now a very similar process is  
going on, although no longer to fur-  
nish the bourgeois with the means to  
raise surplus value, but to furnish it  
with the means to preserve the surplus  
value which it has squeezed out of the  
workers.

The announcement that 8,000 men  
have within the last two months applied  
to the recruiting offices for enlistment  
in the Army should make the judicious  
pause. It announces the fact of the lat-  
est dispossession, and the uses to  
which it is to be put.

What the conduct of the Crown and  
the upper nobility did in the days of  
Henry VIII, the conduct of the plutoc-  
racy is now doing in our own  
days. In the days of Henry VIII, the  
smaller holders were dispossessed of

their property; in these days the pro-  
letariat is dispossessed wholesale of  
its jobs. In the days of Henry VIII,  
the expropriated population rushed to  
the cities, were caught in the web of  
the bourgeoisie, and were made to sweat  
surplus value; in these days the expro-  
priated proletariat, expropriated of its  
pittance as wage slaves, is rushing to the  
army there to sell their hides in order  
to fight for the plutocracy against the  
swelling tide of discontent, and thus in-  
sure to the plutocracy the possession of  
its plunder.

The method of the expropriation or  
dispossession has changed; its immedi-  
ate object has changed; in all essentials  
the process is a repetition of what hap-  
pened in the days of Henry VIII. The only  
real difference is that the law of social  
evolution answered in the affirmative the  
question put in the days of Henry VIII.  
as to whether the process would be  
crowned with success; whereas the an-  
swer to the same question, put in our  
days, is answered emphatically in the  
negative; at least it is answered with a  
huge ?.

PROPAGANDA AND PROPAGAN-  
DISTS.

A friend writes to say that he thinks  
it useless to expect that our comrades  
and friends can be urged to go after  
subscriptions through sheer love of the  
Cause, that the thing to do, in his opin-  
ion, is place paid canvassers in the field  
and do the work in a business like way.  
All of which sounds plausible enough  
but it fits in the face of some facts and  
experiences.

Of course, there is no objection to any  
and everybody subscribing to a Socialist  
paper, just as they might to any other  
paper, but from a Socialist standpoint  
circulation means propaganda, while  
with other papers it means value in get-  
ting advertising. To illustrate: The  
People at one time had a paid can-  
vasser who turned in lots of subs. When  
the time of expirations arrived and Party  
members tried to get renewals they found  
the subscribers were small store-  
keepers, who had subscribed under the  
impression that doing so would bring  
them trade. From a business and propa-  
ganda standpoint the results were—  
nil. The commission of the agent left  
barely the cost of production to us, and  
the storekeepers never even read the  
paper.

We may add that we have considered  
this problem of getting subscriptions in  
all of its aspects, and have come to the  
one conclusion, every time: There is no  
way in which the propaganda of the  
Movement can be shifted from ourselves  
and be performed successfully for hire  
by those not interested in the Move-  
ment. Of course, when a Party organ-  
ization puts a comrade in the field he  
knows where to do the work and the  
above does not apply in his case.

Inspired by the knowledge that Social-  
ism gives, nerved with the determination  
to do what he can to bring about the  
overthrow of capitalism, moved by sheer  
love of the Cause—these we would hold  
are the incentives that will urge forward  
the propaganda of the Movement.

## ROADS CANNOT HOLD WAGES.

Reductions Discussed Owing to Falling  
Business.

It is understood that the managements  
of many important railroad systems are  
discussing the question of a reduction of  
wages as a measure which, they say, has  
been rendered necessary by the depres-  
sion in earnings which followed the panic  
of last October.

Official figures have been compiled and  
brought up to a week ago, which show  
that there are 320,000 freight cars idle  
in the United States and about 8,000  
locomotives, figuring on the basis of one  
engine to 40 freight cars. The freight  
cars idle amount to 14% of the total  
number in service on all the railroads of  
the country. In the two years since  
Jan. 1, 1906, about 320,000 freight cars  
have been built in the United States at  
a total cost of \$320,000,000. The official  
figures indicate, therefore, that the rail-  
roads have \$320,000,000 of capital idle at  
the present moment in freight cars. Fig-  
uring locomotives at \$15,000 each, the  
idle capital represented here is \$120,000,-  
000, so that the total of capital on which  
the railroads say they are now receiving  
no return is \$440,000,000.

It is estimated that 32,000 fewer men  
are now needed. Every railroad in the  
country has already reduced its wage ac-  
counts. Up to the present time the re-  
ductions have been made almost entirely  
by laying off men and by reducing the  
hours of employment.

With most of these employees the roads  
in the majority have contracts providing  
for 30 days' notice before a wage scale  
can be revised. Whether or not this  
notice will be given is the point under  
consideration.

Watch the label on your paper. It  
will tell you when your subscription  
expires. First number indicates the month,  
second, the day, third, the year.

## CLASS BLINDNESS, OR WHAT?

In 1898 the so-called Erdmann law  
was enacted by Congress, the tenth  
section of which forbade railroads or  
other carriers engaged in interstate com-  
merce to discriminate against, by dis-  
charging, employees on the ground of  
membership in labor organizations. Re-  
cently, William Adair, a master me-  
chanic of the Louisville and Nashville  
Railroad, discharged O. B. Coopage, a  
fireman in the employ of the company,  
upon the express ground that Coopage  
was a member of the Brotherhood of  
Locomotive Firemen. Coopage, or his  
organization, brought an action against  
Adair under the Erdmann law, and  
Adair was indicted, convicted and fined  
\$100 by the Federal Court in East Ken-  
tucky. The case went to the Supreme  
Court of the United States, and on Janu-  
ary 27 the Court rendered a decision  
in favor of Adair, declaring that, Erd-  
mann law unconstitutional. The gist of  
the Court's decision is that the Erdmann  
law was "an arbitrary interference with  
the liberty of contract which no Gov-  
ernment can legally justify in a free  
land," and that "it was the right of the  
defendant [the employer in this case]  
to prescribe the terms upon which the  
services of Coopage would be accepted,  
and it was the right of Coopage to be-  
come, or not, as he chose, an employe  
of the railroad company upon the terms  
offered to him."

The question forces itself upon one  
on reading the decision of the Court:  
"Is this a case of class-blindness on the  
part of the Court, or is it a case of  
what?"

As jurists, the learned judges know  
that there is no such thing as "liberty of  
contract" except between parties that are  
equally free. As men, of whom it may  
be expected that they are posted upon  
the economic conditions of the land, the  
judges must be aware of the fact that  
the workingman is not at liberty to "ac-  
cept or reject" the terms offered to him.  
To reject the terms offered by an em-  
ployer means starvation to the worker.  
The billions in the savings banks, "own-  
ed by the workers," never cut any figure  
except in statistical reports palpably  
intended to mislead; the billions do not  
exist except as blimps. The proletariat  
lives from hand to mouth. Not so the  
employing capitalist: he has plundered  
enough from the workers to be able to  
get along without the worker, at least  
for a while. The status of the two is  
not the same—the one is "free," the  
other is under compulsion, and he is held  
under compulsion by the very party that  
enjoys freedom. Under such circum-  
stances the "liberty of contract" is a  
snare and a delusion. Does not the  
Court know this? If it does not, then  
the Court's decision is a monumental  
evidence of "Class-Blindness." Does the  
Court know the facts? Then its action  
is unspeakable.

Whatever the answer to the question  
may be, the action of the Court is a  
good to the enlightenment of the Work-  
ing Class. They have so long been told  
that they believe the yarn about the  
existing Government being a Govern-  
ment of the whole people. Finding them-  
selves no match in the struggle with the  
employer, they resorted to their Govern-  
ment for that protection which all  
Government is there to furnish to its  
part-owners. The Erdmann law was  
passed, affording such protection—it was  
thought. Now the workers discover  
they leaned but on a broken reed, in  
other words, that they are no part-  
owners in the present Government, the  
same being only of, by and for the  
capitalist class.

The discovery is correct. As absurdly  
false as the insinuation is that, the  
per capita of wealth in the land being  
\$1,500, the workers have, each that  
amount to their credit, so absurdly false  
is the claim that, seeing the capitalist  
Government styles itself "the people's  
Government," the workers have any  
property-rights in the said Government.  
As completely as the Capitalist Class  
owns all the per capita of wealth, so  
completely does it own the Government.  
There is no way out but voting down  
the capitalist political parties, and the  
supplanting of the capitalist political  
State with the Government of Labor in-  
dustrially organized.

LITTLE RHODY OPENS ANOTHER  
ARMORY.

Providence, R. I., Jan. 30.—The new  
State armory opens the first day of  
February with an automobile and mili-  
tary show. Army life will be por-  
trayed by members of the Rhode Island  
National Guards, say the billboards.

The building, a very fine structure,  
was designed and built by wage slaves.  
It will be used for the purpose of drill-  
ing wage slaves in the art of slaugh-  
tering their fellows who have the tem-  
erity to demand from the capitalist  
class enough of the wealth they pro-  
duce to live upon.

And while the slaves are drilling, and  
others starving, men calling them-  
selves Socialists are shouting: them-  
selves hoarse over "tactics."

HOMES OF PRUSSIAN  
FARM LABORERS

From the Berlin "Vorwaerts."—Trans-  
lated for The People by G. Ollendorff.

The flight of the laborers from the  
country to the towns is the lasting sor-  
row of the Prussian landowners, who,  
without scruple, use their political power  
for the benefit of their pockets. But  
with all their tricks, such as a passport  
system, contracts, fines, etc.—with all  
the help of the police and the courts,  
they cannot detain the agricultural slaves  
nor arrest their flight. There is only  
one way: the creation of conditions of  
existence fit for human beings.

Out of the many miseries of the rural  
laborers we will again to-day refer to  
the pitiable conditions of their habita-  
tions.

We quote from an official source used  
by us before: the report of the secretary  
for the year 1905, as to the general  
health of the people of Prussia. No-  
body expects from the work of a Prus-  
sian secretary that the conditions in the  
country—where squires rule—will be  
painted in dark colors. On the contrary,  
one may safely assume that a rosy  
tint will prevail. And what does the  
medical department say as to rural  
homes in Prussia?

In the out-of-the-way villages of the  
district of Gumbinnen, solid buildings  
are rarely met with, but clay-hovels,  
the windows of which cannot be opened,  
abound. The medical inspector of Zie-  
derung found in his district four cot-  
tages built out of peat-sod and one mud-  
hovel. In the district of Allenstein  
and of Sensburg several dug-outs were  
still used as habitations. In the village  
of Zemblau, in the district of Danzig,  
the medical inspector, while investigating  
an epidemic of typhoid fever, did not  
find a single toilet-room. Only slowly  
in the district of Koslin the ancient  
clay and straw hovels are replaced by  
modern buildings. In the district of  
Bromberg a single large room very  
often houses two entire families, in-  
cluding their belongings—chickens, po-  
tatoes, vegetables, etc. In the district  
of Oppeln several houses infected by  
disease had to be emptied. The poor-  
houses of the villages in the district of  
Zerseeburg were described as in very  
bad condition, some even as totally un-  
fit for use. In one workman's home  
in the district of Schleswig, pig-stye,  
toilet and living apartments were under  
one roof, kitchen and pig-stye being  
connected by a door. In Lunenburg the  
houses rented for laborers are for the  
most part without modern floors, chim-  
neys, toilets and water.

In the district of Allenstein fit habi-  
tations for the harvesters hardly exist.  
They are mostly lodged in barns, often  
without a separation of the sexes. In  
the district of Potsdam, overcrowding,  
want of sickrooms are of frequent oc-  
currence. In the quarters of the Holpe  
estate in Nieder-Barnim, several cases  
of cholera occurred. They were over-  
crowded and without a sickroom as  
proscribed by law. Very often the  
homes of the laborers on the estates are  
without any toilet accommodations, and  
in one instance this was also the case on  
a royal estate. What the report says  
regarding the lodging of the railroad  
laborers is almost inconceivable. In  
the district of Regenwalde, government  
barracks, they were housed in modern  
barracks. An examination of the medi-  
cal inspector, caused by the local police,  
showed that the sleeping room of the  
barracks was overcrowded, the straw  
for bedding foul, and that every accom-  
modation for ablutions and physical  
functions was missing. The quarters of  
the harvesters in the government of  
Stralsund were under permanent police  
surveillance on account of the frequent  
infectious diseases. The black pox,  
brought in by the Russians almost every  
year, is actually spread by the lodging  
of foreign laborers with native families.  
The quarters of the Galician railroad  
laborers in a barn in the district of  
Goldberg, Silesia, had to be abandoned.

In Schleswig the sexes frequently occu-  
pied common quarters. A fine picture of  
modern civilization is given by the dis-  
trict of Hadersleben. In the words of  
the report: "On a certain estate three  
married couples with their children and  
a single young man lived in one large  
room; one woman had just given birth  
to a child, while another one expected  
to be confined shortly."

In the Prussian diet there was lately  
a good deal of talk as to violations of  
contract on the side of the agricultural  
laborers. No attempt to prove this as-  
sertion was made from any side. The  
fact is, the laborers cannot break a  
contract at all, as it is violated right  
from the start by the employers through  
their non-observance of its conditions.

(Continued on page 5.)



UNCLE SAM AND

BROTHER JONATHAN.—I wonder  
why it is the Socialists must season  
so benign a principle as theirs with  
the sauce of class hatred.

UNCLE SAM.—Do they?  
B. J.—Why, certainly they do. Don't  
you know that they preach class hatred?

U. S.—No, I don't; and what's more,  
I know they don't.

B. J.—Will you deny that the Social-  
ists are always saying that they aim  
at the conquest of power by the work-  
ing class?

U. S.—No; I won't deny that; on the  
contrary, I admit it and approve of it.

B. J.—Very well; and what, pray, do  
you call that if not seasoning a good  
principle with hatred, class hatred.  
How can one class win without an-  
other losing?

U. S.—It simply can't be done; right  
you are in that.

B. J.—Now, how can you deny that  
that sort of thing is a seasoning of  
hatred. Classes are bad things; where  
they exist rows, conflicts, hatred must  
be. What would be the use of wiping  
out one class to set up another?

U. S.—Now you begin to talk sense.

B. J.—There, then you agree don't  
you, that this setting up one class and  
setting down of another keeps up class  
rows and hatred?

U. S.—I fully agree that to set up  
one class and set down another, and  
keeping up class distinctions don't set  
us further on the road toward a hu-  
mane existence.

B. J.—Well, I'm glad to hear you say  
so. That's what I meant.

U. S.—And, if that means anything,  
it means that you suppose the victory  
of the working class would be similar  
to the victories of all other classes; a  
change of oppressors.

B. J.—That's it.

U. S.—And that is wrong.

B. J.—How so?

U. S.—If you drop a lighted parlor  
match into a box of gunpowder, it will  
explode, eh?

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—



# CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

## TO AID YOUNG AND CAMPBELL

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed \$1 is to aid Young and Campbell in their noble fight for Free Speech. I believe a fund should be established to be used in suing any individual or corporation who falsely arrests a speaker or speakers at outdoor meetings of the Socialist Labor Party.

This point must be fought out, and by reëbbing the cities' or towns' pocket books through the courts for false arrests, two birds will be bagged with one shot: propaganda and revenue. Concentrated financial action should commence now with Richmond. The Richmond fight should be kept up until the right of free speech is established there; then another place selected, and so on. Efforts should be concentrated on one spot.

C. H. S.

Somerville, N. J., Jan. 18.

## WAGES IN IRON WORKERS' INDUSTRY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I send the following answers to the questions recently put in The People on wages in the iron workers industry:

Tappers or pourers \$10.00 per day if eight hours. Rail-straighteners \$7.00 per hundred tons; when working full; making 1700 ton per day, making from \$4.50 to \$4.70 per day of twelve hours. Boiler-makers making 28 to 31 cents per hour, working twelve hours per day.

Bottom-makers—two bottom-makers to crew of nine men, making \$7.00 per day of twelve hours; four other men on crew making 16½ cents per hour or \$1.38 per day of twelve hours; three other men making \$2.30 per twelve hour day.

Rollers get \$50.00 per month and tonnage, averaging \$225.00 per month when working full.

Heaters get \$50.00 per month and tonnage, averaging \$150.00 per month when working full.

Vesselmen—40 cents per hundred ton, averaging \$8.00 per day when working full.

Of course it has been a long while since these jobs have been working full.

Iron Worker.

Bradford, Pa., Jan. 18.

## WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING?

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The Syracuse "Post-Standard" of the 24th inst. contains the following report:

"A proposition for equipping the entire Pythian Army with rifles was outlined last night by Major-General Arthur J. Stobbert of St. Paul, Minn. He is the head of the military department of the Knights of Pythias in North America, and was the guest of the lodges in this city.

"One of the important features now under consideration," said General Stobbert, "is the equipment of the men with rifles. This proposition has come up forcibly since the governing body of the Pythian army and file met last May and adopted for the organization the present drill regulations of the United States army. This is the only fraternal organization in the country to-day that is drilling under these regulations. We want to equip the entire Pythian army with rifles and thus make the organization a part of the military arm of the government.

"If this is done, within a short time we can add 30,000 men to the Pythian army. That will be equivalent to 50 per cent. of the authorized standing army of the United States and 30 per cent. of the strength of the entire National Guard of the country. Of course, we expect to secure the assistance of Federal authorities in the equipment of the men. The preliminaries of the matter will all be worked out before the encampment, and final steps will be taken at that time.

"In case of war the Pythian army would furnish an adequate home guard or, on the other hand, would furnish an excellent nucleus for a new army."

Mr. Stobbert cited an instance that happened in Jerico, Tenn., during a strike there, not long ago. A car load of dynamite was left standing on the railroad track in that town. Some one blew it up, wrecking considerable property, and immediately a number of thugs from the surrounding country

rushed in to sack the place. There was no militia within calling, and the Sheriff not being able to control the situation appealed to the captain of the uniformed rank Knights of Pythias. He offered to supply his men, but said that they had only swords. The authorities said, "We will get you rifles," and they telegraphed to the proper military officer, who immediately sent a stack of guns and bayonets, which were used to protect the lives and "property" of the people of the town.

Herein is an instance of what those uniformed Knights were used for and can be used for again.

D. T.

Syracuse, Jan. 25.

## "PROSPERITY" IN SEATTLE, AND WORKING CLASS GOES BROKE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The city of Seattle has, for the past four or five years, boasted of its commercial supremacy over kindred cities on the coast. The capitalist papers have time after time given glowing accounts of the great advantages that this "prosperous" community possessed for capital and labor alike. The commercial clubs and other institutions, such as churches, Salvation Army and the press, caused to be cast broadcast over the entire land circulars telling the recipients of the same of the fruit they would reap in dollars and cents providing that they would heed the call that emanated from the grafters in the "Queen City."

They told of fabulous sums of money being paid out in wages to the wage-slaves and also of wonderful profits accruing to capital upon small investments. They did not inform the prospective residents of the many employment agencies that at all times were ready to send the wage workers out on imaginary jobs, nor did they tell the "cockroach" business men who were induced to come here that such men as Hill, Harriman and Weyerhaeuser owned practically all the industries. The sheriff's sale notices that are constantly being put up on the doors of their establishments may have informed them by this time.

They told of beautiful residences up on Capitol and Queen Anne Hills, but neglected to tell of the many scow-homes down on the waterfront where the working class lives in its miserable environment. They evidently forgot to tell of the worst, or one of the worst, slums in the entire land where women who should by night preside over their own firesides are forced by want to sell themselves.

They did not tell about the chain gang, a relic of barbarism that is, in the twentieth century, in the city of Seattle, still being used as a goad against men who happen to go broke in this city of plenty.

Now, since the "bread line" has made its appearance, the capitalist journals no longer tell of present "prosperity," but inform the wage slaves that they were improvident when times were good and urge them to save their money the next time "prosperity" comes around.

The next time will come when the working class will be educated to that extent that they shall realize, "That the working class and the employing class have nothing in common." Then, and not until then, will we be able to free ourselves, through organization, from the masters who to-day control our destinies.

G. Anderson.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 24.

## THIRTY SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM CHICAGO DESPITE CONDITIONS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—With the assistance of Chicago comrades I succeeded in getting four subs to the Arbeiter and thirty to the Weekly People.

Through personal observation I find the same conditions prevailing here as elsewhere and perhaps worse. I am not stretching things when I say that there are more than one hundred thousand men out of work in the city at the present time, and at the rate they are being laid off the chances are good that before spring arrives fifty thousand more jobless slaves will be without masters.

Some of the shops that I canvassed for the Weekly People two years ago and which were running full blast then are to-day standing idle while others have only a small force at work. The Illinois Steel mills in South Chicago that employ all the way from fifteen to twenty thousand men have only four

thousand on their pay rolls. Large plants like the International Harvester Company, Western Electric, Crane, and Wolfs have but few of their slaves working, and keep them working for appearance sake.

The old Galt House located at the corner of Madison and Clinton streets, owned by the Northwestern Railroad, has been turned over to the Salvation Army. On the front of this building a big sign is displayed which reads: "With the kind permission of the North Western Railroad Co., the Salvation Army will open this place as a soup kitchen and lodging house. Coffee, 1 cent; bread 1 cent; soup, 1 cent; and lodging, 5 cents." Some of those who have tried the above bill of fare tell me there is no danger of getting the gout after partaking of this bounteous repast.

Just around the corner in Canal street is another soup-house, under the management of the Tribune, (a paper that a few months ago was singing the praises of the glorious prosperity we were all enjoying and would continue to enjoy.) When you present yourself at this Tribune "prosperity" hotel they look you over, and unless you are about ready to pass in your checks, you are sent out to clean the streets.

I have seen some of these unfortunate slaves working along Madison street with barely enough clothes on to keep a flea warm. One day's work entitles you to three day's board, worth not more than fifty cents. The regular street cleaners employed by the city are paid at the rate of \$2.00 per day. Hence we see men performing the same amount of work for fifty cents that others are paid \$2.00 for, and all this is done in the name of charity.

The peaceful parade of the unemployed that took place here on the 24th inst. was scattered to pieces in front of the Government Building by Chief Shipley and his band of mounted Cossacks. No mercy was shown the poor parading wretches, and none could be expected from such guardians of "Law and Order."

We are preparing for the coming national campaign; a speakers club has already been organized and it all goes well the comrades of Illinois will have an organizer and canvasser in the field during the summer and fall.

Chas. Pierson.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 2.

## MORE MINE CARNAGE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I wish to report another sacrifice the greedy capitalist class has made to its God Profit.

While I was to-day at Oglesby, a coal mining town about six and a half miles south of La Salle, a horrible accident happened in one of the mines known as the James shaft.

While a cage loaded with ten miners was being lowered into the mine, the rope broke and nine men were thrown to the bottom and maimed; one was thrown fifteen feet to a siding and apparently escaped injury. Being very powerfully built the man has walked home, but it is thought he has received internal injuries of which he may die. The rest of the men have all been taken out seriously injured.

How many will recover is hard to tell and, as I heard one miner say, the men might as well all have been killed outright, as their suffering is far worse, and they have no prospect of supporting their families.

Those miners have constantly dreaded such a catastrophe, and many have warned the management of the danger. But what does that matter? There were only laborers, and there are lots of other wage slaves of all nationalities ready to take their places. As long as the master class can keep paying dividends to the idler who marry loafers of the very nationalities of the men who slave in the mines, the safety of those miners is of secondary consideration.

What are Mitchell and the rest of the lieutenants of the capitalist class going to say to these daily occurring accidents? Do they ever raise their voices against those terrible carnages? Do they ever take any steps at their annual banquets, called conventions, to give warning to the masters of the mines that this slaughtering must stop? No, that would never do for the Mitchells, great or small, for they believe in the private ownership of the means of production, and in the identity of interest of the slaughtering and the slaughtered.

R. Rudwick.

La Salle, Ill., Jan. 20.

## NEEDLESS COAL MINE DEATHS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The record for Du Quoin in accidents for the last two months in the mines is three deaths and four injured, and two of these were killed outright in the same place drawing top coal. One was an I. W. W. man. The next was a shot-firer, caught by falling slate; he died in a few hours. Next Joseph B. Moody, caught by falling slate; broken leg and internal injuries; I. W. W. and

S. L. P. man. Next Leslie Knight, falling slate; fear a broken back; I. W. W. man. A driver and a trapper both received broken legs; they probably will recover.

The question is, what is the cause of so many accidents in the mines? My answer is, the lack of system. The plans are laid to get out the coal, not for protection. It is possible under a proper system to operate a mine without killing a single person.

I was lucky enough to be able to spend one day at the St. Louis World's Fair, and I brought home with me some papers that were given to the public, on the cause of some of the accidents in the mines. These causes, as given in the said papers, indorsed by operators and miners (i. e., the labor lieutenants) alike which disgusted me, as they were an absolute falsehood. They stated that the miners worked in rooms or chambers, and were supposed to work straight ahead, but sometimes got "greedy" and shot off part of the partition or pillar between the next room, and in doing so sometimes blew through and killed the miners in the next room or caused the roof to cave in, sometimes catching the occupants.

The facts are that the miner can leave as thick a pillar or partition as he sees fit, but cross-cuts have to be driven between said rooms to keep the air up with the miners. In most instances this is narrow work, and it costs the company in this field \$2 extra per yard; hence it is to his material interest to have the pillars as thin as the mine will stand without "squeezing" or coming in, as we call it. I have seen the pit boss where the pillars ought to remain thick come in and change the miners' sights, or the two strings put up by the compass, and cause the mines to go to the right or left of his mark about where a cross-cut needed to be. The boss would keep the miner there till he blew through, or just about it, and thus get a cheap cross-cut; then he would change him back to his proper mark again. This is how Moody was hurt. He blew through and contraction squeezed out the slate on top of him, which had seemed solid.

If the miners were not experienced as they are, there would be more deaths than there are. We can sound to one another and tell how far we are apart almost to a "T." It is a wonder, though, there are not more hurt than are under the present system, as "get out the coal" is the all-important question.

And why not? I am informed we are all insured by the company for \$5,000, and why not kill us for that sum? A big "buck" negro under chattel slavery was worth \$1,000 when alive, and an expense to his master when dead. We are worth a day's wage when our master needs us to produce for him, and no expense to our master, but \$5,000 when he kills us. No wonder he cares nothing for explosions.

Now, in this age of science, when astronomy can tell us years in advance when all eclipses will take place, to the hour and minute, and "our" navy and forts can knock the turrets off a ship ten miles away and out of sight without even seeing what they are shooting at—I say, when science can do all of these things and many more, I believe it can figure out the cohesion, weight, attraction, etc., in a coal mine, and with proper regulation and system operate a mine without killing or injuring a single person.

John M. Francis.

Du Quoin, Ill., Jan. 20.

## HOMES OF PRUSSIAN FARM LABORERS.

(Continued from page 4.)

Besides, such a contract is void *per se*, as it is an immoral instrument of usurious exploitation. It takes the most brazen effrontery of dyed-in-the-wool scoundrels to demand new legislation under these circumstances—not against the profit-greedy squires—but against the exploited laborers. Upon official authority, it is proved that these gentlemen violate their obligations in a revolting manner, disregarding human welfare and all laws of morality; that they break contracts and then howl as to violations of contract on the side of the laborers, who justly and rightly flee from the barbarous absolutism of greedy landowners. Whatever applies to the breach of contract on the side of the squires in regard to the refusal of fit human habitations, also applies, as we have often shown to all the rest of the obligations of the landowners. A law protecting the laborers against the owners of estates is of the most urgent necessity.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

## LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

P. K. CARTHAGE, MO.—The best English translation of Benvenuto Cellini's autobiography is the one made by Thomas Roscoe.

J. H. H. QUINCY, ILL.—No. 1.—If you deny that the Single Tax theory is to the effect that the cause of involuntary poverty is private property, then you deny what the Single Tax preaches. Your Single Taxism (then is a variation of the original. Socialist society will not charge for occupation of residential land according to the Single Tax principle. The variation of rental values to-day is a result of capitalist production. Under Socialist production such variations cease to be.

No. 2.—Be just yourself before charging others with injustice. If your letters were published in full, the letters of others, who, like yourself, ask Letter Box answers, should be likewise published in full. That would mean to reduce the Letter Box to two or three letters. Many others who want answers to questions would have to be left out entirely—the many would suffer for the benefit of the few. That is not justice or fairness, as understood in this office.

"READER," BROOKLYN, N. Y.—The answer of the I. W. W. to the invitation of Haywood and others for a new convention is, as was stated in The People, much longer than the portion that The People published. Try and get a Bulletin of Jan. 25. It contains the full answer. It is worth reading.

"READER," NIOBRARA, NEB.—Now to your last question—

The S. L. P. having arisen in this country, where feudalism is wholly overthrown and, consequently, Socialism faces Capitalism, has no need of any bourgeois radical propaganda; the German Social Democracy, being in a country where the bourgeois revolution is not yet perfected, needs and does necessarily adopt a bourgeois radical propaganda. That's the difference between the two parties.

W. A. S., SYDNEY, N. S. W.—Now to your 7th question—

The International Bureau apportioned the vote of each nationality according to the Bureau's estimate of the nationalities' strength, together with the strength of their respective movements. Where a nationality had more than one delegation, as in America, then the delegations met jointly and apportioned their joint vote among themselves.

Next question next week.

H. H. R., CHAMPAIGN, ILL.—Now to your second question—

It is just like Boehm Bawerk to use terms so loosely as to say that a natural deposit of coal, or of gold, or virgin land has "exchange value." Where are these "natural deposits" or that "virgin land"? In inaccessible Central Africa, or in accessible U. S.? If in Central Africa, the said "deposits" and "virgins" have no "exchange value"; if in the U. S., they do have exchange value. Why? The difference comes from the fact that no labor has yet been performed bearing upon the former, while, in the U. S. labor has been performed and is being performed bearing upon the same. By the way, drop the Single Tax notion that virgin land has exchange value. It acquires exchange value only when labor has been performed upon it. If, before that, it has a price, that price is in the nature of a "future," in the stock and produce exchanges, on wheat not yet sown.

## AS TO UNITY

[In this column, and under the above head, will be reproduced the official acts taken by the Socialist Labor Party and Socialist Party organizations on the Unity Resolutions, adopted by the National Executive Committee of the S. L. P. at its semi-annual session, January 5-8 of this year, and also extracts, without comment, from S. L. P., S. P., and other papers, on the said resolutions.]

From New York Workmen Circle, Br. 54, January 25.

At regular meeting held in 206 East Broadway by Br. 54 Workmen Circle, Jan. 25, it was decided to call the attention of the two parties, the S. P. and S. L. P. to combine for the welfare of the plain people, because they have some to say. We appeal for an open convention; we also appeal to all other

A. W., VANCOUVER, B. C.—It must be a pleasing feeling to a man in the West to look at himself in the glass, and to imagine he sees there the whole West, and that, because he is a "dynamiter," as you confess yourself to be, therefore "we in the West are all dynamiters." Much tho' it may jar such a man's feelings—we do not share his views concerning his own multiplicity. Much though it may jar his feelings, we shrewdly suspect that such a man's dynamite ego is running away with him.

J. L. B., NEW YORK.—The Haywood meetings would have been as big who-soever may have called them. People were curious to see the man.

M. G., CHICAGO, ILL.—A man who is two years in this country, and one year in the State of Wisconsin, and has his first papers, may vote in the State of Wisconsin, provided he has resided 10 days in the county, town and precinct where he presents his vote.

O. C. B., ST. LOUIS, MO.—Book on Psychology of European history is received. By all means send the other.

J. C. S., CHICAGO, ILL.—I. F. Bombach, 35 Chestnut ave., Jamaica Plains, Mass.

2. Timothy Walsh, Harvard ave., Jamaica, L. I., N. Y.

A. R., PHOENIX, B. C.—We have no idea who started the canard that "several thousand of the Weekly People, containing an article branding the officers of the W. F. M. as fakirs, were bought by the Steel Trust and distributed among the striking miners on the Mesaba Iron Range." The whole thing is a canard; there has been no such article in The People.

Next question next week.

E. C., PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Mallock is unworthy of castigation; but he can be turned to good use by proving Marx by contrast with Mallock's nonsense.

"A COMRADE," NEW YORK.—Anonymous letters are not recognized in this office. Send name and address.

O. N. E. L., PITTSBURG, PA.—The physical force that the industrially organized working class of the land possess in the matter of the counting of the ballot is that, if the revolutionary ballot is counted OUT, such an organization has the power to count such a ballot IN, that is, has the power to enforce that ballot's fate.

D. J., TRENTON, N. J.—The pure and simple physical force is sufficiently irrational. Don't make him out worse than he is. He is no "pure and simple Unionist." The difference between him and the pure and simple Unionist is that the latter is the "brother" of his capitalist plunderer; whereas the former has got beyond that, but is such an angry man that his rage blinds him; he can not yet perceive the path to freedom, and is caught in the brambles as he tries a short cut across the fields. He'll get over that.

"PROLETARIAN," PROVIDENCE, R. I.; G. R., SPOKANE, WASH.; J. A. McC., PITTSBURG, PA.; A. P., CHICAGO, ILL.; J. E. K., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.; P. K., CARTHAGE, MO.; D. G. O'H., and C. F., SEATTLE, WASH.; E. B., COLUMBUS, O.; G. A. M. TORONTO, CAN.; D. B., LOS ANGELES, CAL.; P. R., DOWNSVILLE, N. Y.—Matter received.

Socialists to do the same.

We remain Truly Socialist Br. 54, Arbeiter Ring, The Committee.

From N. Y. "Worker" (S. P.) Jan. 25. Resolution adopted by the N. Y. State Committee (S. P.) and their representatives instructed to submit the same as a joint resolution.

The National Committee of the Socialist Party accepts in principle the proposition made by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party and expresses its sincere hope that unity of the Socialist forces of the United States may be effected on a sound and lasting basis. In order to realize this hope in the most direct and speedy manner, it decides as follows:

The incoming National Executive Committee is hereby designated as a committee of the Socialist Party to confer with the special committee

elected by the Socialist Labor Party; its meeting for this purpose shall be held in conjunction with the first meeting for the transaction of its ordinary business as National Executive Committee, not later than the third week in March, 1908. The place and exact date to be agreed upon by the National Offices of the two parties;

The two committees in conjunction shall seek to prepare a plan of union, which, in the judgment of both of them will be acceptable to the membership of both parties, based upon the cardinal principles of modern Socialism and especially upon the resolutions of the International Socialist Congresses;

Such plan of union shall then be submitted to both parties for approval or rejection by general vote of the members; and in the event of its adoption by both, the union shall be carried into effect as speedily as possible, in accordance with a procedure to be agreed upon and embodied in the plan of union.

From "The Cleveland Citizen" (S. P.) January 25.

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party has addressed a communication to the National Committee of the Socialist Party suggesting the necessity for a united Socialist movement and a unity conference to meet not later than the third week of the month of March, a committee of seven to act for each party. The communication has been transmitted to the members of the national committee and national executive committee by Secretary Barnes and a vote is being taken on the proposition. In this connection it should be stated that ten conferences have been held recently between the two parties in Rhode Island looking for unification. At the culmination of the sessions a mass meeting was held by the S. P. in Providence, where by a vote of 75 to 2, it was voted that amalgamation is impossible and the national organization was advised against becoming involved in a unity conference.

From Girard, Kan., "Appeal to Reason" (S. P.) Jan. 25.

The door is open and the way is clear. He who recognizes the class struggle and severs connection with all other political parties is a Socialist and belongs to the Socialist party. If he doesn't come into his political home, where everything is waiting and prepared for him, he has no one to criticize but himself, for the comrades of the party have become too wise by experience to tear down what they have built at the behest of those who took no part in the building and some of whom placed every obstruction in the way of the work. . . . Let us get together; but let us get together with Socialists and in the Socialist party, where all real Socialists belong.

From Minutes of Sub-Committee, of the National Executive Committee, S. L. P., Session of Jan. 26, in "Terre Haute, Ind., Jan. 9, 1908.

"Mr. Frank Bohn, "Nat. Sec'y. S. L. P., "New York, N. Y.

"Dear Comrade: "I have just received a copy of the Daily People of the 7th inst. containing the resolutions adopted by the Executive Committee of the S. L. P. on the unity question, and I drop you this line to extend congratulations to your board and to say that the resolutions, in spirit and purport, have my hearty concurrence. No matter what differences there may be they are not of sufficient account to prevent joint nominations and political unity all along the line in the National, State, and Local campaigns this fall. I shall do all I can to have the Socialist Party accept the resolutions of the Socialist Labor Party in the spirit in which they are offered. I am writing National Sec'y Barnes and sending an article to the Appeal to Reason, urging favorable action.

"Earnestly hoping for the successful outcome of this move and for a united and vigorous campaign against the common enemy, I remain, "Your Fraternally,

"E. V. Debs."

From Dallas, Tex., S. P. Local, Jan. 27. Whereas, In order to achieve the results for which Socialists organize in the struggle against Capitalism it is vitally essential that the working class should be organized nationally and internationally as a unit, politically as well as industrially, and

Whereas, It becomes the imperative duty of all Socialists and Socialist organizations to use every means within their power to bring about a united Socialist political and Socialist economic movement on the basis of the principles promulgated by the International Socialist Congresses, and

Whereas, There should be but one

(Continued on page 6.)



## OFFICIAL

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Henry Kuhn, National Secretary pro tem.  
28 City Hall Place.  
CANADIAN S. L. P.  
National Secretary, W. D. Forbes.  
412 Wellington Road, London, Ont.  
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.  
(The Party's literary agency.)  
39 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.  
Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

## A CALL

To the Sections of the Socialist Labor Party, Greeting:—

In accordance with Article VII, Section 3 of the Party constitution, the Sections of the S. L. P. are herewith called upon to make nominations for the place where the National Convention of the Party is to be held this year.

State Executive Committee of the Party will please observe that, in transmitting this call to their respective sections, they must call for the nomination of delegates to such convention and, in submitting the nominations made, instruct the sections as to the number of candidates each member has a right to vote for. In computing the number of delegates each State is entitled to, please note that Article VII, Section 2, provides one delegate for every fifty (50) members in the State on the 31st of December, 1907, and one additional delegate for a major fraction of fifty.

Sections will note that the nominations herein called for must be sent to the National Secretary not later than Saturday, March 14th, 1908, on which day the nominations shall close.

For the National Executive Committee, S. L. P.

Henry Kuhn,  
National Secretary pro tem.  
New York City, January 29.

## A CALL TO AID THE PROPAGANDA OF THE S. L. P.

To the Sections of the Socialist Labor Party.

## GREETING:

The N. E. C. sub-committee instructed the undersigned to present to you an arrangement made with comrades Frank F. Young and Joseph Campbell and to urge your active co-operation.

The two comrades proposed to act as volunteer organizers and canvassers for the Party press and Party literature on the following conditions: Both are to travel and work as a team, holding meetings, gathering subscriptions to the Party organs and selling Party literature. To sustain them in this work, they are to receive a commission of 30 per cent on subscription cards and literature sales, but as that alone would not suffice to meet expenses, a fund is to be started, to be known as the "Literature Fund," and out of that fund purchases of literature and subscription cards are to be made.

A Party sympathizer, taking a special interest in the plan proposed, offered to cover the initial expenses in order to get the work started and, so it is understood, will continue to bear a helping hand provided the Party membership will lend such support as to insure an uninterrupted continuation of the work.

As you know, the two comrades, in pursuance of the plan outlined, ran up against capitalist "law" and capitalist "order" in Richmond, Va., and, as a result, were put in jail for proclaiming the principles of the S. L. P. on the streets of that city. But that incident will only give added zest to the work, as such incidents are bound to do in a revolutionary movement.

In keeping with the plan outlined above, the undersigned will receive contributions to the Literature Fund, the money received to be turned over to the Labor News Co. and to be drawn against by comrades Young and Campbell in literature and subscription cards. All contributions will be credited to the Party press.

Henry Kuhn,  
National Secretary pro tem.  
28 City Hall Place.  
New York, Jan. 31.

## TO THE SECTIONS, MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

## GREETING:

In accordance with its usual custom Section New York, Socialist Labor Party, will hold a spring festival on SUNDAY, March 15th afternoon and evening at Grand Central Palace, Lexington Avenue and 44th street. In conjunction with this affair, consisting of a grand concert in the afternoon and ball in the evening, a bazaar will be held for the purpose of raising funds to enable us to maintain and strengthen the Daily and Weekly People. In order to make this bazaar and fair a success we need the hearty cooperation of all members and friends of the Socialist Labor Party and we therefore call upon you to donate articles which we may be able to dispose of advantageously for this purpose. Get among your friends and relatives and especially call upon the talented ladies and men who are able and skilled to produce something as they have in the past. Do not purchase anything ready made for cash except it be some object not purchasable in this part of the country. If you cannot secure anything from your friends or relatives and are not in a position to make something yourself, but desirous of sending us something send us the cash which you contemplated spending instead.

With revolutionary greetings we remain yours fraternally,  
The Entertainment Committee.  
A. Orange, Sec'y.

## VIRGINIA STATE COMMITTEE.

The State Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party in Virginia met in regular session, with Neff in the chair. Present: Buxton, Kinder, Rudolph, Neff. Absent: J. Bader.

Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Correspondence.—From Frank Bohn, National Secretary, re Young and Campbell acting in the capacity of volunteer organizers. From Goodman, section Roanoke, with order for due stamps. From Organizer Schade, Newport News and Organizer Munro, Portsmouth, also ordering stamps. From Muller, Organizer section Richmond, re arrest of Young and Campbell, requesting financial assistance, asking for the whole of the State funds and for the S. E. C. to ask all sections in State to assist them in their fight for free speech in Richmond. From section Newport News and sections Roanoke and Norfolk, re above; also financial reports from all sections for the half year.

Three special meetings of the S. E. C. were held, and it was decided to forward \$35 to section Richmond for the purpose, and appeal to the sections, all of whom have responded.

The question of appealing for funds outside the State was considered and held in abeyance for the present, as we hope to make this our central objective point for the present in this State.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Edwin McDowell, State Secretary.  
[As has often been announced, no local financial reports are inserted in these columns. Only such reports as come from the N. E. C. or its Sub-Committee are published.—Ed.]

## CONNECTICUT STATE COMMITTEE.

Regular meeting of Connecticut State Committee, Socialist Labor Party was held on January 12, at 62 Cannon st. Absent, Prior. Rucker in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Correspondence: From New Britain, stating that the section there must be entirely reorganized as too many members have fallen into indifference or withdrawn. As Carlson has lately moved there, he will try to get the Section into working shape again.

From Daily People, asking us to keep up an untiring activity in order to uphold our indispensable weapon, the Daily and Weekly People.

After our State canvasser and organizer Comrade White gets through in Waterbury on the 10th inst., his services for the present will be dispensed with, the ground having been pretty well covered.

The work for our State fund raising plan is progressing; several articles have been donated and more are promised. It was voted to take up the plan on the 22nd of March at Lyceum Hall, in Bridgeport and have an entertainment in connection with it.

Our N. E. C. member, J. Marek, was present and gave his report on the session lately held in New York. The report was received with great satisfaction and pleasure.

J. D. Carlson resigned from the State Committee as his employment gave out and he had to leave Bridgeport, having now moved to New Britain.

Voted to purchase a large map, to cost two dollars, of Connecticut, designating congressional districts and official boundaries.

Fifty dollars worth of prepaid cards had been received on the money which was sent as a loan some time ago.

P. N. Cucaro is to fill the vacancy made by Carlson, until Section Bridgeport elects someone in his place. Financial report not ready.

Meeting adjourned.

J. P. Johnson, Recording Secretary.

## PENNA. STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The State Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party of Pennsylvania met at 2109 Sarah street Jan. 26, with Rupp as chairman.

Present: Clever, Gray, McConnell, Weber, Kophart, Rupp, Thomas Clark.

Absent: Herrington, Drugmand, Marney, Layton, Malc.

Minutes of last meeting read and ap-

proved with slight correction.

Communications received from H. Kuhn with instructions from N. E. C. to S. E. C. to recognize McConnell as Penna. member of N. E. C.; Section Erie, order for due stamps; Labor News bill for Sue books amounting to \$25.20 to S. E. C. From August Funka, application for membership-at-large, stating that the mine he worked in was organized in U. M. W. A., but that he held no office; Section Philadelphia protesting against the appointment of Weber as N. E. C. member by S. E. C.; F. Bohn acknowledging receipt of order for 200 due stamps. From J. Frank, Organizer Section Allegheny County, notifying S. E. C. of McConnell's reinstatement. On motion communications were received, acted upon and filed.

Moved and carried that Secretary prepare credentials for McConnell.

That the two applicants for membership-at-large be accepted.

That Secretary write Section Philadelphia and give explanation of action of S. E. C. in appointing Weber.

Communications from Bohn and from Frank ordered filed.

Bills from Weber and Branch 26 Ward ordered paid.

Auditing committee instructed to audit books of Secretary and financial reports of meetings held.

Warrant for \$122.54 to cover expense for December ordered drawn.

The names of Kuhn and Bohn were suggested as nominees for National Secretary.

Motion to adjourn carried.

L. M. Barbydt,  
Secretary.

## AN APPEAL

To the Sections, Members and Friends of the Socialist Labor Party.

Greeting:—

Two members of the Socialist Labor Party, Joseph Campbell and Frank F. Young, both engaged in a canvassing and organizing tour for the S. L. P., were arrested at Richmond, Va., for an alleged violation of a city ordinance which prohibits public speaking on the street. As is always the case with such anti-free speech ordinances, they are remembered and applied only when workingmen voice the revolutionary aspirations of the working class; they are not remembered and applied when anyone, in behalf of the powers that be, hands out the dose of contempt to that same working class.

Section Richmond, S. L. P., has taken up the fight against gag-rules. Unable to see that fight through single-handed, the Section has appealed to the N. E. C. sub-Committee for aid and that body, at its last session held on the 29th of January, instructed the undersigned to issue a call for a defence fund to be used to contest the case of the two comrades and to help maintain them while the case is being fought.

All contributions of this fund should be forwarded to Alexander B. McCulloch, 323 West 10th street, Manchester, Va.

Inasmuch as Section Richmond has already undergone considerable expense, speedy action on the part of those who are in a position to give will be appreciated.

For the N. E. C. sub-Committee, S. L. P.,  
Henry Kuhn,  
National Secretary pro tem.

## CAMPBELL-YOUNG FREE SPEECH DEFENCE FUND.

The following items have been received to date:

Chas. Sperle, Bound Brook, N. J.	\$1.00
Geo. Signarovits, Brooklyn	1.00
John Cooke, New York	1.00
"Brooklynite," Brooklyn, N. Y.	1.00
Total	\$4.00
Henry Kuhn, Nat. Sec. pro tem, 28 City Hall Place, New York	

## OPERATING FUND.

During the week ending with February 1st, we received but two contributions to the Operating Fund. The purpose of this fund is to make up by donations for the lack of receipts due to the inactivity of our friends. As we have before stated it is either give us 500-subscriptions per week or make up what you fall short by contribution. This week we have had neither the sub nor the donations. Comrades, this lack of support is putting us back where we were last Fall. Don't allow that condition to prevail again. Get busy in the propaganda. Send us one Weekly People sub a month each of you. That is all we ask.

Geo. Ward, Bremerton, Wash.	\$ 3.50
J. A. Hunt, Elma, Wash.	2.00
Total	\$ 5.50
Previously acknowledged	1,075.39
Grand Total	\$1,710.89

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

## PROVIDENCE LECTURE.

The Socialist Labor Party of Providence will have Frank Bohn on SUNDAY afternoon, February 16, 3 o'clock, speak at Arnold Post Hall, 84 Westminster street. Subject: "The Economic Interpretation of American Political History." All welcome.

## ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN IN PHILADELPHIA.

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn will lecture on SUNDAY evening, February 9th, 8 o'clock, at Lewar's Hall, southwest corner Ninth and Spring Garden streets. Her subject will be: "Socialism from a Woman's Standpoint." Readers of this paper and sympathizers and their friends are invited to attend.

## MILWAUKEE, ATTENTION!

A large mass meeting will be held on SUNDAY, February 9, 2:30 p. m., at Bohemian Turner Hall, corner Twelfth and Vine streets. Vincent St. John will speak on "The Industrial Panic and Its Solution."

Admission free. All readers of this paper are requested to attend.

Secretary.

## AS TO UNITY.

(Continued from page 4.)

Socialist party against the capitalist parties, therefore be it

Resolved, That, to the end that the organized proletariat in the Socialist Movement in the United States may be constituted the American Section of the World's International, we the membership of Dallas, Texas, Local No. 38, commend the action of the Socialist Labor Party in making overtures to the Socialist Party looking to unity; and we endorse the appointment of the incoming National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party to meet a committee of the S. L. P. to find a common basis for uniting the two parties, the terms agreed upon to be submitted for referendum to the respective party memberships. And

It is hereby directed that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the national headquarters of the Socialist and Socialist Labor Parties respectively.

Signed,  
A. M. Bruce,  
Corresponding Secretary.  
Jan. 27, 1908.

From N. Y. 6th & 7th Assembly Districts, S. L. P. Jan. 28

- 1.—Unity means strength in a combat organization.
- 2.—Unity silences adverse criticisms.
- 3.—Unity prevents reactionary opposition.
- 4.—Unity permits the clear issue of "Socialism against Capitalism," to be boldly stated and advanced.
- 5.—Unity will more quickly enable the workers to secure the wealth which they alone create.
- 6.—Unity will cause the teaching of Socialist truths, more readily.
- 7.—Unity means that Socialists understand their duty toward the cause.
- 8.—Unity is sensible. Differences of minor importance may continue to exist; but as oil and water can be held in the same bottle so may Socialist forces be held under one banner of the United Socialist Party of the United States.

The above was the consensus of opinion among the comrades of the 6th & 7th Assembly Districts (New York City) S. L. P. held Jan. 28 1908.

From N. Y. "Worker," S. P. Feb. 1, 1908

Letter from 22nd & D. (Kings County) protesting against motion to instruct the State Committee to recommend to the National Committee that a committee of seven be elected to confer with a like committee of the S. L. P. in regard to unity. . . . Delegate to County Committee reported that the County Committee decided to instruct our National Committeeman to vote in favor of electing a committee to confer with a committee of the S. L. P. The action of the County Committee was approved by three fourths of the members present. It was the unanimous opinion of the comrades that we ought to stand by the resolutions adopted at the Stuttgart Congress.

From "New Yorker Volkszeitung" (S. P.) Jan. 30.

There should not be two Socialist parties. Granted. It "should" not be. . . . But we are certain that, even if that unity were brought about, the name of the Socialist Labor Party would appear, then as now, beside our own, upon the official ballot of the principal States. The capitalist parties have too deep an interest in having it so. And the politicians have found out how to have it so.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

## RESOLUTIONS

Of the California State Executive Committee on the Extradition of Representatives of the Mexican Liberal Party. Whereas, From an investigation of the facts made public and bearing on the case, it is clear to us that an attempt has been made by American capitalists who are exploiting the resources of Mexico, to hand over and deliver to the Mexican government the bodies of the following named citizens of Mexico: Ricardo Flores Magon, Libraro Rivera, Lazaro Guitierrez De Lara, and Manuel Sarabia; and

Whereas, This attempt has been made for the purpose of stifling the voices of those men because they have been agitating for the political and the economic freedom of the Mexican proletariat; and Whereas, The fact to have so agitated in their own country was a criminal offence and attended with great personal danger, and made it necessary to operate and carry on their work in these United States; and

Whereas, These men were hounded in Canada, in St. Louis, in Texas, and finally arrested here in Los Angeles; and Whereas, We find ourselves in thorough accord with the aims, hopes and aspirations of these, our Mexican brothers; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we request the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party to take this matter up with the end in view of considering its national and international importance; and

Resolved, That our press be used to point out the unanimity of the capitalist class in suppressing and subduing every effort of the international proletariat to emancipate itself; and

Resolved, That public demonstrations be called to protest against our own government being used to ensure the success of this outrage; and

Resolved, That a call be made for finances for these Mexican brothers; and

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions and manifestos and exhibits be brought to the attention of the International Socialist Bureau at Brussels; and

Resolved, That we organize the local defence committee consisting of representatives of the Mexican Liberal Club, Socialist Party, Social Science Club, Mexican Branch Socialist Party, Socialist Labor Party, Industrial Workers of the World; and

Resolved, That all contributions to the defence fund be sent to Mrs. M. Shea, 633 Ruth Avenue, Los Angeles, Cal.

## PASSING OF THE STEAM ENGINE.

(Continued from page 3.)

is conversant with the facts—"that the plants in Central America are handled by a class of labor that the average American would regard as greatly inferior to himself." In fact, ignorant half-breeds make good operators.

The gas or oil engine is rapidly replacing the steam engine in every line of manufacture, with the result that stokers, firemen, and engineers are being thrown out of employment into the ranks of the unskilled laborers.

The engineers have, collectively considered themselves upon a higher plane than the ordinary workmen. They have formed unions of their craft and have taken decided stands against the firemen when the poor fellows would attempt to improve their condition, to the extent of "breaking in" the scabs who took the strikers' places.

Progress means the advancement of the human race. Just as craft unionism, as exemplified by the engineers and others, means retrogression, so does the Industrial Union mean Progress.

Would the Industrial Union prevent the introduction of the producer gas plant? No! But it would teach you that you should own socially the gas producer and engine, and all other means of driving machinery. An Industrial Union, under the auspices of the one true, and most progressive labor union, the Industrial Workers of the World, backed by the political arm as wielded by the members of the S. L. P., would so strengthen the cause of Labor, including engineers, firemen, oilers, and all other workers that the means of production, transportation and distribution would come under social ownership much sooner than the most ardent advocate of Socialism dare hope.

To the power engineers who stand twelve hour shifts, seven days every week—Don't you think your condition could stand some improvement?

Don't you men operating the engines in the great plants, on duty twelve, fifteen, and eighteen hours a day, don't you feel that conditions are not quite as they should be. The craft union doesn't help you.

You men, who are walking the streets, now that so many plants are shut down, what does your skill avail you? Not even a square meal.

Listen to the Socialist and I. W. W. man when he talks to you. You are in a terrible condition.

Read the Socialist literature, join the local section and give your strength to the cause of industrial freedom.

"Electrical Worker."

## OPPORTUNITY

IT IS KNOCKING AT THE DOOR—GIVE HEED TO IT YE MILITANTS OF THE S. L. P.

For the week ending Friday, January 31st, we received 124 subs to the Weekly People and 17 mail subs to the Daily People, a total of 141. We heard from less than a hundred people during the week. Times are hard. We realize that, full well. This record is eloquent of what we are experiencing, but however the times this work must go on, and these are just the times in which to make this Movement strike root.

Last week Comrade Pierson sent 30 subscriptions from Chicago. Now, we don't say that you should be able to do that, but we do hold that you can send ONE SUBSCRIPTION A MONTH, and by the way, we have yet to hear from a comrade who will say that he CANNOT do that. None better than ourselves know the men of the S. L. P.—know their sterling determination, their undivided devotion to the Cause; but we must confess that we do not understand why it is that all along the line they are not pushing the propaganda.

It is not a question that subscriptions cannot be secured; the little bunch of active workers disprove that beyond all cavil. In the Weekly People you have a paper unmatched in the field of Socialist journalism; its special features, its editorials, its correspondence, are unexcelled. Down in our hearts we know that the growth of the movement depends upon ourselves, upon our efforts. Realizing this, it is our duty as Socialists to push the propaganda. It is useless to boast of our principles and tactics if we do not at the same time propagate them. Our knowledge of Socialism is not something for us to sit and hug to ourselves. If we are militants let us prove it by pushing the propaganda.

Labor News sales were light—the only important orders: Los Angeles, Cal., \$21.40; Kalispell, Mont., \$12.60; Chicago, \$10.80; Paterson, N. J., \$9; Boston, \$3.40.

New leaflets are ready, \$1 per thousand; fifty cents for 500. Send in your orders.

## CHILDREN'S HOUR

Dear little Comrades:—

A little girl I know moved to Cincinnati a month ago. She writes to a friend out here how cheap things are there compared with what they are here!

For instance, here she bought one head of lettuce for 15c.; there, two for 5c.; pork chops are 12c. per lb. here, while there she got them for 5c. per lb. And so on down the line of commodities—everything is cheaper.

Her papa is a minister. His salary here was less than one half; what it is out there. But his work is harder. At any rate, you can see of course, that our little friend's papa will grow rich, if he gets twice as much money and living is twice as cheap.

But is that so with working people? If living is so cheap in Cincinnati, why do not all the people of New York rush to Cincinnati, at least those who have it so hard to "make" a living here?

There's a pinch somewhere. Perhaps Comrade Ostrow of Cincinnati can help us out. I hope he does very soon.

Dear me, it must be the postman's fault; but I have not received one February Birthday List; or one composition. Do come to the aid of

Your deserted,  
AUNT ANNETTA,  
Right now.

You probably have read or heard about Mrs. Stokes saying, in one of her speeches, that much as she loves the Stars and Stripes (U. S. Flag) she loves still more the Red Flag—the Socialist Flag.

The capitalist owned papers began to explode on the subject.

An old veteran answers this in a recent "Tribune." He thinks that wage-earners are not slaves and cannot be compared to the black slave; that the wage earner is not sold to the highest bidder, like the old-time slaves.

Why not? Does not a father or mother force his child to study a profession or trade which "pays" better money? No matter whether that child cares for the work or not.

I know a woman (and there are thousands more), who to-day is an invalid, because her parents would not let her study music. They insisted she must learn millinery, at which she could even as a child earn something, and within a couple of years might earn fifteen or twenty dollars per week, if she became an expert. You see, they figured out the cost of studying music (time and money), and then the earnings she might receive at millinery during

ing the time she would have to study music, and found it would be more money in their pockets in the long run, so they forbade the girl to continue studying.

She obeyed, but is a nervous invalid to-day.

One of the biggest lawyers in this city had his little son with him in a downtown elevator. A friend stroked the little fellow's head and asked what he was going to be when he grew up.

"An artist," replied the lad. "Oh, no son," quickly interrupted the father. "I want you to have something to eat once in a while."

You see, artists are not as valuable to the capitalists as lawyers, so this little would-be artist must be sold into commercial slavery. Very likely he was made to study law instead.

The lawyer's daughter, probably, will be sold to some rich count whom she does not love, instead of marrying some poor man whom she does love but who can not marry her because he can not give her as grand a home as her father could, or thinks his daughter should have.

A man has a family. He loves them dearly. He can earn very little where he lives. So he goes away from his home and loved ones,—sells himself to the highest bidder, just as much so as if he were a black slave of the south.

Dan could work on some farm where he would get \$1.25 per day. But that is already so colored by the blood of risks his life in the dangerous mines, or he becomes an engineer, or takes some other job where his chance of life is very small, because, these jobs being so dangerous, fewer people look for them. He is killed probably but a short time after. Was his life not sold to the highest bidder?

Aunt Maria saw her little black love sold on the block to the slave trader. She wept at bitter tears as only mothers can shed, be they white or black. But Aunt Maria knew that her baby would never be treated so bad, as to become valueless to his master. That would be money lost to him.

Aunt Maria's daughter to-day is free from chattel-slavery. Hers and her white sister's babies are not sold on the block. They are sent to the cotton mill at the age of three or four where they work from ten to twelve hours either day or night shifts. Many times the older ones have to throw cold water on their faces to shock them out of the sleep.

Wage workers are slaves, and are beginning to realize that their slavery must be abolished. The world is ripe for that now, only the working class must learn that it is. That is our work.

## .. GRAND FAIR ..

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OF BOSTON

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